

# THE LATHENÆUM

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No. 2231.

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**BRITISH ASSOCIATION for the ADVANCEMENT of SCIENCE.**—The next ANNUAL MEETING of this Association will be held at LIVERPOOL, commencing on Wednesday, September 14, 1870.  
President Elect.—Professor HUXLEY, LL.D. F.R.S. F.G.S., President of the Ethnological Society of London.

Notices of Papers proposed to be read at the Meeting should be sent to the Assistant General Secretary, G. GARRIN, Esq. M.A., Harrow.  
Information about Local Arrangements may be obtained from the Local Secretaries, Municipal Offices, Liverpool.

**BIRMINGHAM TRIENNIAL MUSICAL FESTIVAL,**

IN AID OF THE FUNDS OF  
THE GENERAL HOSPITAL,  
(THIRTIETH CELEBRATION.)

On the 30th and 31st AUGUST and 1st and 2nd SEPTEMBER, 1870.

President.—The Right Hon. the EARL of BRADFORD.  
Principal Vocalists.—Mademoiselle TILLES, Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Miss Edith Wynne and Mademoiselle Ilma di Murka, Madame Patey and Mademoiselle Drasil. Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Vernon Rigby, and Mr. W. H. Cummings, Mr. Santley, and Signor Foll. Solo Pianoforte, Madame Arabella Goddard. Solo Violin, M. Sainton. Organist, Mr. Stimpson.

Conductor.—Sir Michael Costa.

OUTLINE OF THE PERFORMANCES.

Tuesday Morning.—Elijah, Mendelssohn.

Wednesday Morning.—Naaman, Costa.

Thursday Morning.—Messiah, Handel.

Friday Morning.—St. Peter (in two parts), Benedict (composed expressly for the Festival); Requiem, Mozart.

Tuesday Evening.—A Miscellaneous Concert, comprising Cantata (Paradise and the Peri), J. F. Barnett (composed expressly for the Festival); Miscellaneous Selection, comprising Mendelssohn's Concerto in G Minor, and Overture Freischütz and Zampa.

Wednesday Evening.—A Miscellaneous Concert, comprising Instrumental Work, A. S. Sullivan (composed expressly for the Festival); Choral Ode (ditto), Dr. Stewart. Second Part will consist entirely of Selections from the Works of Beethoven.

Thursday Evening.—A Miscellaneous Concert, comprising Cantata (Nala and Damayanti), Dr. F. Hillier (composed expressly for the Festival); Miscellaneous Selection, including Kreutzer Sonata and Overture Guillaume Tell.

Friday Evening.—Samson, Handel.

Programmes of the Performances will be forwarded by post on application to the undersigned, at the Offices of the Festival Committee, Ann-street, Birmingham, on and after the 24th inst.

By order, HOWARD S. SMITH, Secretary to the Festival Committee.

**ARUNDEL SOCIETY.**—At the Annual General Meeting, held June 17th, it was Resolved, that the number of Second Subscribers should, from the 1st of January, 1871, be limited to 1,200. New Members may therefore enter as Second Subscribers during the remainder of 1870. Afterwards they can only be received as Associates.

Further information relating to Membership and the Publications of the Society can be obtained at the Office, or will be sent by post on application to F. W. MAYNARD, Secretary.

No. 24, Old Bond-street, London, W.

**ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS.**—The CURATORSHIP of the School of Painting is VACANT. Artists desirous of becoming Candidates obtain particulars of the Appointment on personal application to the Registrar, Burlington House, till the 13th of August.

JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Secretary.

**ROYAL MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY.**

NOTICE TO FELLOWS.—The READING-ROOM and OFFICE will be CLOSED from the 1st to the 31st of August next.

WALTER W. REEVES, Assistant Secretary.

King's College, July 15, 1870.

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**SALE ADJOURNED.—With respect to the**  
circumstances now happening, the SALE announced for 30th July, 1870, of the Pictures, Drawings, &c., forming Part of the COLLECTION of the late Mr. ANDRÉ SCHEFFHOUD, at HAAG, has been ADJOURNED to a later time.

Important Sale of Natural History Specimens.

**MR. J. C. STEVENS will SELL by AUCTION,**  
at his Great Rooms, 38, King-street, Covent-garden, on TUESDAY, August 3, at half-past 12 precisely, a COLLECTION of HEADS and HORNS of ANIMALS, amongst which are fine examples of Moose Deer, Wapiti, Sambar Deer, Scotch Stag, Eland, Koodoo, Jembek, Buffalo, &c.; also a quantity of Bird-Skins, Glass Cases, Insects, and a variety of other Natural History Specimens.  
On view the afternoon prior and Morning of Sale, and Catalogues had.

In Bankruptcy.—Valuable Architectural Publications.—Three Days' Sale.

**MESSRS. HODGSON will SELL by AUCTION,**  
at their Rooms, 115, Chancery-lane, W.C., on WEDNESDAY, August 3, and Two Following Days, at 1 o'clock (by order of the Trustee), the ENTIRE STOCK of the Valuable ARCHITECTURAL, ENGINEERING, and other SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS of Messrs. ATTCHLEY & CO., of Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury; comprising 780 Richardson's Picturesque Designs in Architecture; royal 8vo.—500 Donaldson's Handbook of Specifications, 2 vols. 8vo.—770 Donaldson's British Agriculture, Imperial 8vo.—550 Haskell's Engineering Field Work, 3 vols. 8vo.—800 Haskell's Railway Construction, 4 vols. Imperial 8vo.—340 Haskell's Practical Mining, royal 8vo.—750 Lendy's Military Surveying, Imperial 8vo.—500 Dean's Farm Buildings, 4to.—520 vols. of Clarkson's Monuments, Fosses, Ancient Iron Works, &c., 4to.—180 Brooks's Modern Architecture, 4to.—400 Campin on Iron Roofs, 4to.—200 Campin's Principles and Construction of Machinery, fcap.—300 Campin's Mechanical Engineering, 8vo.—700 Page's Guide to Ornament, fcap.—300 Epitaphs from Holy Writ, fcap.—115 Tottier's Sepulchral Monuments, 4to.—1,000 Attchley's Builder's Price-Book for 1870, fcap.—20 Salandri's Decorative Design, 4to.—400 Ricci's Skeleton Structures—400 Coulthard's Blast-Engineering, fcap.—300 Blackburn's Decorative Painting of the Middle Ages, folio—300 Rogers's English Mansions, 4to.—140 Gibbs's Gothic Monuments, 4to.—1,500 Walcott on Church and Ecclesiastical Architecture, 8vo.—300 Kendall's Schools and School Houses, 4to.—160 Examples of Ecclesiastical and Domestic Structures, folio—35 Phillips's Mexico Illustrated, 4to.—300 Phillips's Antiquities of Normandy, folio—as well as the Copyrights, Stereo-Plates, Copper and Steel Plates, of many of the above; also the M. Cellaneous Stock of Ancient and Modern Architectural Books—mostly French and German Scientific Works.  
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The sum of 27,000*l.* and upwards has already been promised, the principal Contributors of which are mentioned in the following list, but the Committee feel it their duty to say that this amount represents but a small portion of the Sum required to render the Cathedral of our Metropolis worthy of the Nation and of the Reformed Religion. They trust that Englishmen, whether living in London or the Country, in England or Abroad, will feel a pride in helping this important work to a triumphant conclusion, and that they will contribute according to their means, whether they be large or small. The Dean of St. Paul's, or the Secretary, W. CALVERT SHONE, Esq., Chapter House, St. Paul's, will gladly receive Contributions.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 30, 1870.

## LITERATURE

*The Origin of Civilization and the Primitive Condition of Man.* By Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P. (Longmans & Co.)

As the human mind in dreams repeats in a mechanical and fantastic fashion the real labour on which it has been engaged during the preceding day, so the various races of men continue to repeat in curious customs usages which had once a practical meaning and purpose. There is no more interesting study than is involved in the search after the origin of these symbolic observances; and, even as we find in much of the elaborate religious ceremonial of the ancient Jews the evidences of wise sanitary laws, we find in these old customs not only an index to many prudent regulations in primitive life, but also a key to many customs existing at the present day. Sir John Lubbock's fresh contribution to our knowledge of the mental and social condition of savages—apart from its value as a comprehensive and able treatise on that general subject—offers to the inquisitive in such matters an amount of material, out of which the private student may spin any number of theories; and the truth is, that the vulgar and exoteric intelligence may perceive explanations which are not so clear to the philosophic mind. For example, Sir John describes as "inexplicable and fantastic" the fact that "among many races a woman is absolutely forbidden to speak to her son-in-law." Perhaps there are some among us who would say that the savages were, in that respect, not so illogical as it has been our habit to consider them. Another puzzling fact is, that among certain peoples, when a child is born, the father is put into bed by himself, and huddled up with mats and skins. For several days he thus lies apart, and is supposed to eat nothing. Yet it seems to us that in modern times some such regulation would certainly commend itself to the domestic authorities who, at such a crisis, occupy the house; and who look upon the husband as very much in the way. Again, Sir John regards as a bit of anthropomorphic sentiment the circumstance that "the North American Indians prefer a hook that has caught a big fish to a handful that have never been tried;" and remarks that the Bushmen "despise an arrow that has once failed of its mark, and, on the contrary, consider one that has hit as of double value." Why not? The accomplished billiard-player who tries a new cue and misses an easy stroke, instantly suspects the cue of having been twisted by damp or other means; and the fly-fisher who has been eminently successful with one description of fly, prefers it on the next day to all its fellows. If the reader thus goes on to explain savage customs by the result of his experiences of his own race, he has a right to lay the blame of the habit upon the author, for Sir John Lubbock has an uncomfortable and unpromising fashion of putting the absurdities of civilized life on a level with those of savage life; and the worst of it is, that his reasoning is horribly accurate. Observe the laconic fashion in which, in the following passage, the graceful young persons who walk in Rotten Row, are coolly placed alongside barbarians.

"Many similar cases might be given in which savages ornament themselves, as they suppose, in a manner which must be very painful. Perhaps none is more remarkable than the practice which we find in several parts of the world of modifying the human form by means of tight bandages. The small size of the Chinese ladies' feet is a well-known case, but is less mischievous than the compression of the waist as practised in Europe. Some of the American tribes even modified the form of the head." Sir John might have added that the New Zealander's habit of tattooing his face, and the Fijian's elaborate methods of dressing the hair, are not wholly without their counterpart among ourselves.

Then as to marriage, we learn that "in Sumatra there were formerly three perfectly distinct kinds of marriage—the 'Jugur,' in which the man purchased the woman; the 'Ambel-Anak,' in which the woman purchased the man; and the 'Semando,' in which they joined on terms of equality." Ill-natured people will probably remark that all three forms are common even in these present times. The symbolic relics which still exist, of the ancient necessity under which men laboured of having to carry off their brides by force, are curious, and are minutely described in the volume before us. The tendency to form into a ceremonial any portion of experimental existence is oddly illustrated by the circumstance that in Sydney, where a native must secure a wife by stealing upon her unawares, knocking her down with a club, and beating her until she is so insensible that he can drag his prey home to his own tribe, the children have constituted this rough form of courtship a game, which may probably last after the original practice has become obsolete. Ingenious speculators have found traces of Bel in the various games and sports of our own children, and have seen the "Druidical" circle in the circle of boys and girls who sit on a green, while two of their number run out and in and give us a reminiscence of serpent-worship.

Moon-worship, too, is one of our weaknesses. The negroes, one of the authorities here quoted tells us, when they see a new moon, fall on their knees, and pray to have their life renewed even as the moon is renewed. Sir John probably knows the familiar English custom of turning over all the money in one's pocket when the new moon appears, that one may become wealthy by having the little store continually renewed, like the widow's cruse of oil. We have water-worship, also, among us; and at the end of the last century, pilgrims used to go to the well of St. Fillans, at Comrie, in Perthshire, and pay observances to it. When it is remarked that one of the observances consisted in the pilgrim leaving a portion of his clothing as an offering to the genius of the place, and when it is remembered that the pilgrims were probably Scotchmen of the last century, it will be seen that no more crucial test of their faith could have been invented. "A Sumatran ever scrupulously abstains from pronouncing his own name; not, as I understand, from any motive of superstition, but merely as a punctilio in manners. It occasions him infinite embarrassment when a stranger unacquainted with their customs requires it of him." Are we to look upon this odd custom as having any relation to the superstitious dread of mentioning a Member by name in the House

of Commons, and upon the embarrassment of the savage as a faint reflex of the unknown and ghastly consequences which would accrue from breaking through this "form of the House"? A Sumatran, further, is always addressed in the third person. The Germans, we know, have gone the round of all the personal pronouns (excepting those reserved for the speaker) in addressing their neighbours; and it is strange to observe the various degrees of respect or familiarity conveyed by going a step down in the ladder of pronouns. When the formal *Sie* is substituted by the affectionate *Du* between two friends, a grand ceremony of shaking hands and drinking toasts generally takes place. Yet, while the third person plural—"Sie"—conveys respect and courtesy, the third person singular—"er"—is considered so contemptuous a term that the Grand-Duke of Baden had to issue an order that no officer in his army should thenceforth thus address a common soldier. We may add here, that, while in most central and southern European languages the sun is masculine and the moon feminine, the reverse is the case in German; and this femininity of the sun and masculinity of the moon may be traced back to the religious legends of savages, who found in the moon the brother or husband of the sun.

Among savages, also, there obtains a notion that spirits cannot cross running water; and Sir John Lubbock observes that "a somewhat similar idea existed in Europe." It may be that the belief no longer exists in reality among us; but it is a nominal article of faith in many country districts, and it is implicitly received by children and young folks. The superstition that, once over running water, you can defy the spirits that may pursue you, forms the basis of the story of 'Tam o' Shanter,' who, indeed, may be suspected of having had a very wide experience of the peculiarities of both spirits and water. Touching the matter of supernatural sights and revelations, however, not the least curious and instructive phenomena we find in savage life refer to the magicians, who, as Sir John Lubbock points out, are singularly like our own spirit-rappers in their performances. The Chinese magicians, says Astley, "though they have never seen the person who consults them, they tell his name, and all the circumstances of his family; in what manner his house is situated, how many children he has, their names and age; with a hundred other particulars, which may be naturally enough supposed known to the demons, and are strangely surprising to weak and credulous minds among the vulgar. Some of these conjurers, after invoking the demons, cause the figures of the chief of their sect, and of their idols, to appear in the air. Formerly they could make a pencil write of itself, without anybody touching it, upon paper or sand, the answers to questions." What is the meaning of the word "formerly" in this sentence? Does it mean that the Chinese conjurers have lost the trick?—that some accident has occurred in that transmission of professional secrets which probably exists among them as it exists among the conjuring families of Afghanistan? We cannot, however, go over in detail the many glimpses of our own superstitions and weaknesses which Sir John Lubbock points out in the records of savage life. We must recommend our readers to study the book themselves; confident that each will find a mass of facts

strangely corroborative of his own observations and reflections.

Having thus treated with great circumstantiality the varied phenomena of savage life as regards domestic customs, the marriage ceremony, and the picturesque imaginations of religious faith, Sir John Lubbock proceeds to speak of the character and ethics of the savage. We also get a brief introductory treatise on the origin of morals, which does not seem to us either very clear or very exhaustive. Sir John does not, perhaps, quite fairly state the case of the Utilitarians in drawing a distinction between the actions which a man would be taught to do as conducive to his own advantage, and those which were not so, and yet enjoined upon him because they were right. Those who look upon morals as a system of living which has been constructed by the experience of many men as to what was best for the race, do not say that these laws may not in many instances be disadvantageous, from a utilitarian point of view, to the individual. The instinct of benevolence or self-sacrifice is possibly not inexplicable on utilitarian principles; but the moralist demands as much time for his theory as the geologist for his theories, in order to let the teaching of experience produce the instinct. Sir John Lubbock goes for the origin of morals to the fear of punishment on the part of unseen powers; and thus regards "authority" as "the origin, and utility, though not in the manner suggested by Mr. Spencer, the criterion, of virtue." Following this chapter on morals, we have another and a most interesting one on language, and a final one on laws. The author concludes with these deductions:—"That existing savages are not the descendants of civilized ancestors. That the primitive condition of man was one of utter barbarism. That from this condition several races have independently raised themselves."

Such is the summing-up of a work which is most comprehensive in its aim and most admirable in its execution. The patience and judgment bestowed on the book are everywhere apparent; the mere list of authorities quoted giving evidence of wide and impartial reading. The work, indeed, is not only a valuable one, on account of the opinions which it expresses, but it is also most serviceable as a book of reference. It offers an able and exhaustive table of a vast array of facts which no single student could well obtain for himself, and it has not been made the vehicle for any special pleading on the part of the author. We cannot speak favourably of the illustrations; but, fortunately, they are few in number, and they seldom treat of the negro himself. It seems to us that if the negro races should ever—the present governing races having been "played out"—become our masters, they will have a deep debt of vengeance against us in the matter of woodcuts. They have, more than any other class of men or beasts, been made the victims of the grossest burlesque at the hands of European engravers, whether in missionary magazines or in books of travel; and we are not sure but that the instinctive dislike to the negro which most children imbibe, in spite of the teaching of their parents, is due to the repulsive figure which the negro cuts in the scrubby little pictures which generally accompany the story of his conversion.

*Der Staatsstreich vom 2 December, 1851, und seine Rückwirkung auf Europa.* (Leipzig, Duncker; London, Williams & Norgate.)

THE irony of fate has made the publication of this pamphlet opportune. By the light of the war which is being kindled, Prussia may see, as Russia and Austria have seen already, what was the value of those assurances of friendship that were accepted so readily in 1852. Nothing is so remarkable as the way in which all the great European Powers entered into immediate relations with the author of the *coup d'état*; and though some of those Powers suggested that the Empire should not be revived, while others nourished *arrière-pensées* of a rather dangerous tendency, the outward tone was re-assuring. The author of this pamphlet writes with so strong a leaning towards the Imperial side that we might suspect his honesty but for the original documents collected in the appendix. In one or two instances, indeed, it seems to us that the pamphlet and the documents do not tally. The effect produced by the summary of Prince Schwarzenberg's state paper is much more favourable than the paper itself. Moreover, when the author of the pamphlet has no such documents to support him, he is far from carrying conviction. We hardly know what to say of a man who can describe the massacre of the 2nd of December in these words:—"The rising which the socialist party in Paris attempted to organize, but in which the actual working population took but little share, was put down by superior military force." It would have been surely better to leave this act altogether out of the question if the principle adopted is that the end justifies the means. Even those who might grant that the state of things to which the Empire succeeded was untenable and full of dangers, would prefer that the way in which the change was brought about should not be glozed over.

Apparently it is the main object of this pamphlet to show that Louis Napoleon's accession to power was welcomed by the chief states in Europe, in spite of the divergence of their views and of their interests. While Cavour and Lord Palmerston looked forward to the effect the *coup d'état* would have in liberating Italy and repressing Austria and Russia, these two empires regarded Louis Napoleon as a probable ally, and looked for his adhesion to their policy. Prince Schwarzenberg, in the paper to which we have alluded, described him as the best and only supporter of order in France, preferring him to the Bourbons on the ground that his monarchical tendencies inspired confidence, while their leaning to the constitutional system caused fears for the future. "It is," writes the Prince, "the parliamentary system brought into France by the Bourbons, which has destroyed them. Louis Napoleon has put down this system, and if he can only make an end of the liberty of the press and of the publicity of debates in the representative bodies, he will make France more governable than she has been hitherto." With regard to Louis Napoleon's pacific assurances, and his disclaimer of all projects of aggression, the Prince writes naively, "We believe in the sincerity of these assurances, because they agree with his interest." And therefore the Austrian Minister recommends the sovereigns of Germany to

sacrifice their dignity to other considerations, and to accord an equality of rank to "*un individu tel que Louis Napoléon*." There is not the same amount of political cynicism in the other documents appended to the pamphlet, but most of them were meant to be communicated to the French Government, while Prince Schwarzenberg wrote for the German cabinets. The Russian despatch which follows upon a letter from the Czar Nicholas himself, attempts to dissuade Louis Napoleon from assuming the Imperial title, and reviving the memory of that which Europe had declared against in 1815. If only the title of President was retained, and the dignity, instead of being made hereditary, was to last for a certain number of years or for life, Russia would offer no opposition. Prussia is still more reticent. A few words about appreciating the services rendered to the cause of order by Prince Louis Napoleon, and about considering the declarations of the new Government as a pledge of its intention to persevere in the peaceful course which it has pursued already, form the gist of Baron Manteuffel's despatch. In fact, throughout all these documents the changes are rung on that celebrated phrase "*L'Empire c'est la paix*." We could not have a better opportunity for being reminded of those professions.

*Miscellanies from the Oxford Sermons and other Writings of John Henry Newman, D.D.* (Strahan.)

READERS of Dr. Newman's works will miss from this selection much that may seem characteristic of his style, and will regret the absence of some of his finest and most familiar passages. But the pieces presented to us here are carefully chosen, and answer the purpose of the present volume. The preface rightly describes Dr. Newman as one of the deepest thinkers and most eloquent writers of the time, and although the second of these two attributes is insufficiently represented, some gleams of Dr. Newman's great power of language break out every now and then, while thought is everywhere conspicuous. In places we feel rather embarrassed at the novelty of the points of view from which we are called upon to contemplate characters and doctrines, for there is what we may call a striving after originality, as if the preacher felt that the received opinion was erroneous, but was not fully persuaded of that which he wished to substitute. We may illustrate this by referring to some of the historical studies. The characters both of Balaam and of Saul are worked out with consummate art, and full weight is given to all that bears upon them in Scripture; but when all is said we are tempted to ask whether this is more than an individual expression—whether it will stand the test of time, whether it will even continue to convince its author? The explanation of the contrast between Balaam's relations with God and his hostility to God's people strikes us as a rather forced solution of a difficult problem. In like manner, the proneness shown to detect an irreligious spirit in Saul, even at the time when he was most favoured by Samuel, savours of this rather arbitrary method. We wish to speak with all respect of Dr. Newman, and we feel that there is nothing hasty in his judgments. He always goes to the root of the matter. The unflinching hardihood with which he carries every principle



to its furthest consequences shows him to be free from the taint of compromise and from those "safe" habits, which are another name for incapacity; but while we admire Dr. Newman for this, we cannot always follow him, and we doubt if he always follows himself. Sometimes he has evidently been betrayed into paradoxes. It can hardly be said that he has formally abandoned any of his positions, yet has he always been the same? We are not speaking of the great change which is still so much regretted, which has caused a gap in the Church of England, and has not been wholly welcome to the Church of Rome.

These thoughts, however, are foreign to the book before us. The selections which are contained in it happily avoid any of those passages which have been the grounds of controversy. As a general rule, we are able to take in the teaching of this book without any *arrière-pensée*, without any feeling that we have here the germ of those theories which estrange their author from us. Perhaps in one or two instances we may think that Dr. Newman shows a sign of too literal an interpretation of Scripture, that he sometimes strains his words and finds in them rules that are too strict for human frailty; but this is only the effect of that moral courage of which we have spoken already. We note it especially in the sermon called 'The Danger of Riches.' After quoting some of the texts which bear on the subject, Dr. Newman says, "It is usual to dismiss such passages with the remark that they are directed, not against those who have, but against those who trust in riches, as if, forsooth, they implied no connexion between the having and the trusting; no warning lest the possession lead to the idolatrous reliance on them; no necessity of fear and anxiety in the possessors lest they should become cast-aways." It is clear that this is not the usually received doctrine, but the text from which Dr. Newman preaches fully supports his conclusion. The problems which he takes and works out are many of them just as likely to be passed over, because they cannot be solved without an intense struggle. It is because Dr. Newman does not shrink from that himself, because he forces it on the attention of others, that his writings chiefly deserve to be studied.

*The Fuller Worthies' Library.*—*The Works in Verse and Prose Complete of the Right Hon. Fulke Greville, Lord Brooke.* For the first time collected, and edited, with Memorial Introduction, Essay Critical and Elucidatory, and Notes and Fac-similes. By the Rev. Alexander B. Grosart. Vols. I. and II. (Printed for private circulation.)

*Miscellanies of the Fuller Worthies' Library.*—*The Poems and Verse Translations of the Right Rev. Jeremy Taylor, late Bishop of Down, Connor, and Dromore, &c.*—*The Poems of Francis Bacon, &c.*—*The Temptation of our Lorde.* By John Bale, Bishop of Ossory. Edited by the Rev. A. B. Grosart.

Books like the above, which are published only for private circulation, demand little further notice than the record of their appearance as an item of literary news. The titles of the works speak for themselves. The poems are now rich, now rough, strong or smooth, sweet or sharp, stirring or subduing by turns, and

according to the humour of the writer and the requirements of his theme. The names of the authors are warrant that the titles are cunningly and craftily (in the old sense of these words) illustrated by them. Mr. Grosart taps the old Massie with an air of the quaintest and most knowing of ancient tapsters. He holds up the glass to the sun, and borrows glory from the wine-coloured sunbeams. He tastes daintily, as good wine demands, and he almost swoons with ecstasy at the new delight. If he does not invite many to be guests, he does furnish golden goblets filled to the brim with the most exquisite liquor, for his chosen friends,—who pay for it.

Descende, Corvino jubente  
Promere, languidiora vina.

We only wish that the public generally could share in this rich banquet. They would find that there is more in the well of English undefiled than, perhaps, they have suspected. There is fresh knowledge in the biographical notes and in the annotations. There is fresh, new-old music in the several texts. We will only add one word to indorse a remark made by the editor, and which is to this effect: Justice, he says, cannot be rendered to Fulke Greville, Lord Brooke, till the archives in that Warwick Castle, which he restored, be examined. He makes earnest appeal to the present representatives of one of England's noble poets, that existing documents may be thoroughly examined. "Moreover," remarks Mr. Grosart, "I cannot but indulge a hope that among the family papers of this great Warwickshire house, letters and other Memorials of Shakespeare himself are lying all undreamed of. It seems to me an incredible thing that one so intellectually and not merely tastefully literary, and a near neighbour, held no intercourse with the foremost man of all Time." We hold the same opinion, and earnestly hope that search for the proof of this intercourse may end in fruitful results. The present Earl of Warwick is descended from the cousin of the great Fulke Greville, who was one,—is one,—of the most tender yet manly of England's sons of song. For such a minstrel Brooke Street, Holborn, seems now a most odious bower. It was not so once. There stood the mansion (Brooke House, surrounded with gardens) which was the poet's home; a home where, in 1628, he was basely murdered by the villain Hayward, who afterwards slew himself. The place had fallen into squalor, and was covered with mean houses when, a century ago, another child of the Muse swallowed there the poison he could hardly pay for,—poor Chatterton. But he who goes on pilgrimage to Brooke Street, may have more pity for Chatterton, but he will have more pride in Lord Brooke.

*The Wars of Succession of Portugal and Spain, from 1826 to 1840; with Résumé of the Political History of Portugal and Spain to the Present Time.* Maps and Illustrations. By William Bollaert. Vol. I. *Portugal. Contains Account of the Siege of Oporto, 1832-3.* Vol. II. *Spain. Contains Flight of Isabella II. in September, 1868.* (Stanford.)

It would be difficult to imagine a better time than the present for the publication of a fairly lucid and graphic account of the political distractions which convulsed the Peninsula during the last forty years, and made the kingdoms

of Spain and Portugal familiar with the most repulsive horrors of civil war. When, it was only the other day, that the capitalists of every European money-market were asking with bated breath what would become of the Leopold-Hohenzollern candidature, and when, to escape from one Spanish crisis is only to make a step towards a great European war, thousands of English people are refreshing their knowledge of recent Spanish history, and would be thankful for any impartial work written with a view to their enlightenment concerning the antecedents, merits and requirements of the various parties that are demanding some kind of permanent rule in lieu of the stop-gap government that has dominated Spain since the second Isabella's flight from the throne of her ancestors. But to the work which the position of affairs has elicited from Mr. William Bollaert we cannot refer readers with an announcement that they may derive from it any considerable amount of the assistance of which they stand in need. To say that they deal competently with even so few as two or three of the several factions that have striven for the mastery in Iberian society during these later years, or to admit that they occasionally throw serviceable light on some perplexing point of Lusitanian politics, would be to certify too much in behalf of these bulky and confusing volumes, which, besides making an unsatisfactory attempt to describe the struggles in which the author played an insignificant part some thirty or forty years since, give a fragmentary survey, or what may be termed an Annual-Register enumeration, of the principal events that have transpired in Portugal since Dom Miguel's overthrow, and in Spain since Espartero's regency.

Had Mr. Bollaert, instead of undertaking an historical labour greatly beyond his powers, been content to produce a brief memoir of his personal doings in the service of the liberal Dom Pedro of Portugal and the barbarously illiberal Don Carlos of Spain, he might perhaps have given the world a readable narrative of curious adventures and singular though obscure services; for the few scraps of personal history, which enliven his otherwise dreary pages, incline us to regard the author of 'The Wars of Succession of Portugal and Spain' as a somewhat droll and rather instructive specimen of the class of intelligent and vagrant adventurers who from purely private considerations bestir themselves in the political concerns of countries with which they have no national or sentimental connexion, and from time to time find congenial employment in acting as the secret agents of monarchs out of business and royal pretenders. A man of a less pliable and unsympathetic nature would have experienced difficulty in passing from military service under Dom Pedro to civil and clandestine employment under Don Carlos; but though not devoid of a faint preference for liberal over conservative politics, it cost him no struggle with principle to adopt the cause of a Prince whose character he despised and whose aims he regarded with secret disapprobation. Perhaps the autobiographer's scientific training in the Royal Institution, where he acted from 1820 to 1825 as laboratory-assistant to Professors Brande and Faraday, may be held in some degree accountable for his philosophic indifference to the political principles of his employers, so long as they satisfied his reason-

able demands for food and money, and furnished him with opportunities for seeing life from novel points of view, and tasting the excitements of adventure and intrigue. Anyhow it appears from his own admission that, on failing to get a chemical assistantship at King's College after his return from an unsuccessful mining venture in Peru, he became a mercenary in Dom Pedro's army, more out of disappointment and a desire for profitable change than out of any warm regard for Donna Maria's cause or sympathy with his comrades' enthusiasm. "I was sorely and unexpectedly disappointed," he frankly admits with respect to his misadventure at King's College; "this changed my views in life; my strong natural propensities had been thwarted." An interview with Sir John Milly Doyle, who was gathering recruits for the Fedroites in London taverns, convinced the defeated candidate that arms would do more for his advancement than science.

"Sir John observed to me in glowing colours that my scientific and mining knowledge would be most available in connexion with artillery and engineering. I had a liking for such studies, having the idea of entering later the Turkish service, where pay and preferment were satisfactory: so I looked upon the present occasion as a good opportunity to get some schooling in the art of war. As to the politics of contending parties in Portugal, they concerned me but little; still I must own to have had Liberal sentiments. It was occupation I wanted, and away I went, trusting to not a very good chapter—the chapter of accidents. For a few days myself and others met Sir John at the eating-house in Threadneedle Street, to know when and how we were to be despatched to forthcoming scenes and dreams of promotion and glory. We had to meet rather secretly, for we were acting contrary to the provisions of the Enlistment Act."

The chapter of accidents was, upon the whole, a chapter of bad accidents. The adventurers who constituted "Dom Pedro's British Volunteer Rifle Cadets" had not been long in Portugal before they showed more disposition for grumbling than fighting, "and not admiring the rough service they were in, talked of leaving Oporto;" and before the siege of Oporto was over Corporal Bollaert knew what it was to see mothers and infants die of starvation, and learned how to be grateful for a meal consisting of "half-a-biscuit, or a piece of maize bread and an onion." Yet worse was in store for him. Though he fought right valiantly, he was tried by a court-martial for cowardice; and though he was honourably acquitted of having shown the white feather, and upon the final dissolution of the Rifle Corps entered the Portuguese Artillery, he received nothing more valuable than apologetic regrets and shrugs of official shoulders, when after Donna Maria's restoration he asked for a lieutenant's commission. On receiving this response to a modest request Mr. Bollaert shook the dust of Lisbon from off his feet, and after a brief interval of repose in his native country, he entered the service of Don Carlos, whose patronage in the long run proved no more profitable than Portuguese promises to the author, who during his term of allegiance to the Spaniard was pleased to think and call himself a "Conservative Liberal."

Such a career must have yielded abundant materials for an exciting story of personal experiences; but it is only now and then that Mr. Bollaert has recourse to the vicissitudes of his private fortunes, and to his recollections

of old associates, for the entertainment of readers who would pardon him for being uninteresting, if he were but amusing. It is, however, only fair to an author for whom we can say so little, to admit that once in a while his volumes remind us seasonably of things which should not be forgotten, and give us some suggestive illustrations of Spanish character. At a time when civil war is one of the several calamities impending over the Peninsula, it is well that we should recall the barbarous excesses and ferocious crimes which distinguished the conflict of the Carlists and Christians in the days when Cabrera avenged his mother's murder by a wholesale massacre of female prisoners, and the ruthless savage, Narvaez—the inflexible Narvaez, as Mr. Bollaert politely designates him—found comfort in his dying moments in reflecting that of all his old personal antagonists there was not one who had escaped his vengeance. "General," urged the priest to the dying Narvaez, "on the brink of eternity you must give me your assurance that you die at peace with all your enemies." With an air of surprise at the confessor's ignorance, and of exquisite delight at the results of a policy which had agreeably simplified the penitential formalities of his death-bed, the grim partisan replied to his confessor, "Enemies, holy father, I have none; I have shot them all."

*Symbolism; or, Mind, Matter, Language, as the Elements of Thinking and Reasoning, and as the necessary Factors of Human Knowledge.* By James Haig, M.A. (Blackwood & Sons.)

THIS ingenious yet rather eccentric book is written with the intention of superseding "the noisy but shallow systems of ancient, mediæval and modern philosophy" by a system entirely new and original. Hitherto successive generations of philosophers have blundered on, contradicting, confusing and confounding each other, because they have failed to perceive that the real basis of all scientific truth is Language. This is the secret which, according to Mr. Haig, is to open out a new world before us. In the place of the absurdities of the past we are to have a new system with Language for its basis. Mind and Matter, the other categories which complete the universe of human existence, are to give place to words. Words are to be everything. All knowledge and all philosophy is only the science of human words. All history, moreover, is to be reduced to a study of language, for to interpret language is to interpret all the actions which man ever has performed or can perform.

But on what is language to rest? On number, which is to be the beginning of all truth, since it is a certain fact that language has ever been formed and framed according to the framework of arithmetic number. Number is a perfect language, eternal, divine, indestructible. Number is equally applicable to all material, all mental and all verbal things. Every human science depends upon number for its certainty. Even space and time must be measured by number, but number can only be measured by itself, by self-evidence. It affords to man the clearest and most scientific idea of infinity, of the absolute and the infinite, the one and the many. It furnishes at once the key to the doctrine of universals

which has puzzled philosophers from the days of Plato downwards. For number teaches us that there is no difficulty or contradiction in a plurality of units being a new unity called *ten*, or a plurality of tens being a new unity called *one hundred*: why then should there be any difficulty in supposing a plurality of objects to form *one class*? a solution, by the way, which reminds us of an argument by which a certain divine sought to establish by an analogy from nature, the unity of God, "There is *one sun, one moon, one multitude of stars*." But if we are to base all human science on language, and all language on number, we must have certain axioms to start with. Of the three laws of Thought generally adopted by logicians, Mr. Haig adopts the law of Identity and the law of Contradiction, but dismisses the law of Excluded Middle as not only futile but absolutely false. His reasons for discarding this third law are worth quoting, as an illustration of the general force of the arguments throughout the book.—

"It (the law of Excluded Middle) is false in three cases: 1st, When one or other of the terms employed, A or B, is logically absurd or nonsensical; 2nd, When the thoughts of A and B are mentally ambiguous or incompatible; 3rd, When the things A and B are physically variable and composite with each other in number, time, and space—i.e. when A is partly or sometimes B, and partly or sometimes not B. For example—1st, Suppose that it were asserted that 'all fish must be either abracadabra or not abracadabra,' we can well deny both alternatives, for both are logically nonsensical. 2nd, Suppose that it were asserted that 'a musical symphony must be either as sweet as a rose or not as sweet as a rose,' we can again deny both absurdities; because the thoughts or sensations are incompatible or ambiguous. Both are sweet, but we cannot compare the sweetness of hearing with the sweetness of smell. No man can be bound by any law of logic to accept one or other of such dubious, ignorant or ambiguous propositions. 3rd, Suppose that it were asserted that 'water must be either oxygen or not oxygen,' we can well and properly deny both propositions, for both are false. It is false to say that water is oxygen when it is only partly oxygen. It is also false to say that water is not oxygen when every particle of water is oxygen plus something else."

These very curious objections show a complete misunderstanding of the whole subject. Mr. Haig does not seem aware that the axiom which he attacks is a law of Thought, and not, as he supposes, a law of Language. He is misled by his theory that Language is all in all and the basis of all knowledge, and forgets that in formal logic it is assumed that Language is used merely to convey certain definite ideas, and with a perfect comprehension of the words employed. Objections similar to the above might be urged with equal force from Mr. Haig's point of view, against the laws of Identity and Contradiction. For instance, we might, in some cases, assert, with perfect truth, that "liberty is not liberty," meaning that when it degenerates into licence it ceases to be true liberty; or deny that "strong men are strong," if this is intended to express that muscular strength is not always identical with strength of constitution. Having thus set aside the law of Excluded Middle, a new law is to be substituted for it, the law of Distinction or Logical Division, which forbids ambiguity by enacting that the parts of every division should be both clear and distinct. We are informed that the violation of this law has



been the source of almost all the ambiguities which have disgraced philosophy since the days of Thales.

Starting from these self-evident axioms, Mr. Haig proceeds to demolish pitilessly existing systems and to demonstrate logically one or two conclusions which his predecessors have foolishly regarded as indemonstrable, but which follow very simply and directly from the principles which he himself lays down. An instance of this is the Doctrine of the Holy Trinity, which is a necessary consequence of the theory of symbolism, and is proved as follows: The first symbolic form of human knowledge is the mathematic truth, Unity into Unity equals Unity. Every cognition is a product of three factors—the thing or object, the mind or thought, the word or symbol. The thing passes into the thought, the thought into the word. Hence the only true conception of human knowledge is as a unity in trinity, a trinity in unity. Now, if the knowledge or self-knowledge of man implies three distinct things factors of one thing, it must also be true of our conception of a God of self-knowledge that there are in Him three Persons, Factors, Units. As the three factors of self-knowledge are *personæ* of self without being three separate selves, so there are three Persons in God, but yet not three Gods. Every one who refuses to acknowledge this merely contradicts himself.

This is not the only point of theological speculation handled by Mr. Haig in the course of his argument. He devotes a whole chapter to a comparison, or rather a contrast, between Jesus and Socrates, in which he lays down some very startling theories. He notices, as a curious fact, that about six hundred years before Christ there appeared four celebrated systems of religion or no-religion—the Asceticism of Buddha in India, the Materialism of Confucius in China, the Pantheism of Zoroaster in Persia, and the Rationalism of Socrates in Greece. We may fairly, he says, conceive of Satan as a being who can anticipate the course of human events for some six hundred years; and it therefore seems exceedingly probable that the enemy of souls, expecting the birth of a Divine Being, sought to avert the consequences of the event which he dreaded by inventing these systems to counteract its influence on mankind. This is confirmed by what we know of the life and death of Socrates. During all his life he was evidently under diabolic protection; his death was intended to be a sort of counterpart to the death of Christ; his character was to be held up to mankind as rivalling the character of Christ. Hence his wisdom, which was an inspiration of the Evil One, though sometimes speaking almost as an angel of light; hence the continual promptings from within, which Socrates himself attributed to a demon or familiar spirit. Modern Rationalism is the offspring of the Socratic teaching, which led men to prefer the pride of reason to the humility of faith.

After this specimen of Mr. Haig's historical knowledge and critical power, the reader will not expect to find in him extensive learning or the traces of a careful study of the subjects with which he deals. He seems to be very imperfectly acquainted with the systems of philosophy which he condemns, although he has plenty of hard words to throw at them. In fact, all who reject his conclusions are

irrational, self-contradictory, ludicrous, pitiable. He speaks of the "inane, stupid and undefined discussions of the German philosophy," of the "empty verbiage and non-experimental experience" of the materialists, of their empty, illogical contradictory insanity; but perhaps he reserves for Hegel the vials of his most contemptuous wrath:—

"To say, with Hegel, that 'being and nothing are the same' is to give the lie to our own being; and then immediately to say that they are not the same is to give the lie to our own words; and the assumed reason for, or conclusion from, these two lies—'because being is *werden*, *fiert*, becoming, growing, &c.—is a third lie of confusion and ambiguity, and confounds being the thing with being the thought, the verb with the noun, the existence with the possibility, the category with its predicable, the Being with the state of its being, the Thing with its mental condition or thought: it confuses Mind and Matter. The axioms of Hegel, therefore, are not only not self-evident, but they are all evidently false—excusable perhaps in a youth misled by the antinomies of Kant, and the two unities, supposed to be one unity, of Fichte and Schelling. But the pride of the Professor, or else ignorance of true logic, must perhaps answer for their permanence in the world."

We have now said enough of Mr. Haig's philosophy. The style of his book is not destitute of ability, and here and there passages occur which are almost brilliant. One peculiarity of style is the continual recurrence of very unnecessary marks of exclamation, intended, we suppose, either to express the withering contempt of the writer for his opponents or to draw the attention of the reader to the startling theories which are put forward. The occasional quotation of Greek words, which add nothing to the meaning, is, we must confess, very suspicious, as we invariably find them either without an accent, or with a wrong one, or in some cases grossly misspelt. We hope these are mere clerical errors, but we can scarcely think it possible that we can thus account for such words as *πρασκειν* for *πράσσειν*, *χεισθαι* for *κείσθαι*, *εκειν* for *ἐκεῖν*; and when we are told that *εἶδη* means "the idea, or image, formed on the retina," our charitable hope vanishes altogether.

Mr. Haig's book has certainly one eminent merit, that of originality. Mr. Haig is a man who thinks for himself and adopts fearlessly his own conclusions; yet we cannot help wishing that he were rather less original and possessed a greater appreciation of theories opposed to his own. We should then find, in the place of the self-sufficient dogmatism which is much to be regretted, a more calm, deliberate criticism of others and an increased intellectual humility in regard to his own system.

*Letters from London. Written from the Year 1856 to 1860. By George Mifflin Dallas. Edited by his daughter Julia. 2 vols. (Bentley.)*

In the survey of recent American literature, which appeared in No. 2200 of the *Athenæum*, it was remarked that although Mr. Dallas's London Letters were not devoid of agreeable qualities and artistic merits, they would fail to raise their writer's fame; and now that we have re-perused the epistles in the new London edition, we see no grounds for forming a more complimentary judgment of a collection of rather trivial performances, which afford some little evidence that diplomatists, with all their

traditional reputation for peculiar shrewdness, and all their special opportunities for gathering information in reliable quarters, may be neither more sagacious nor more accurately instructed in current affairs, than ordinary mortals, who have never penned a despatch or breathed the air of a foreign office. Were he alive, Richard Cobden would derive no small satisfaction from the series of brief notes, which, upon the whole, sustain his low opinion of diplomatic men and services. It is certain that, if these letters are a fair sample of the kind of secret correspondence which ambassadors maintain with the Powers whom it is their function to represent, no good would result to the diplomatic profession from a wholesale publication of the epistles indited by envoys of the higher grades during the last fifty years, for the special enlightenment of the world's rulers. The air of pompous dignity with which the ambassador repeats things known to everybody as though they were matters known only to a few, may impose on the simplicity of credulous readers; but a comparison of the statements of the diplomatic scribe with the materials which the press simultaneously provided for the formation of public opinion, points to the somewhat ludicrous conclusion that, whilst he resided in a grand mansion in the neighbourhood of Regent's Park, and discharged the functions of Official Intelligencer of the Washington Government with respect to Britannic doings, Mr. George Mifflin Dallas knew neither more nor less about our political transactions than any equally intelligent but altogether obscure American, sojourning at Morley's Hotel, and gleaning his knowledge of events from the gossip and literature of its coffee-room. Not that Mr. Dallas was wanting in vigilance and sense, or was unworthy of the confidence which his fellow-countrymen placed on his official ability: on the contrary, he possessed an abundance of the mental clearness and energy in which educated Americans are seldom deficient; and though his natural powers were, perhaps, slightly on the wane when he arrived in London, he was no unfit representative of a great Republic at the court of a powerful kingdom. Not out of any readiness to depreciate a conspicuous statesman, nor from any disregard of the susceptibilities of a sensitive people, but solely because his writings force the contrast on the reader's attention, do we thus compare the general triviality and commonplace qualities of the ambassador's communications with the grandeur of his office, and the high respect that is ordinarily entertained by the multitude for ambassadorial services.

Another of the more prominent and injurious features of the letters, is their exhibition of narrowness and prejudice on the part of the writer, who, notwithstanding his intercourse with men of divers nations, and the liberalizing influences of European travel, seems to have arrived in England with no adequate information of the changes wrought in her society since George the Third's time, and whose misconceptions of our character and history caused him to attribute to American republicanism whatever he discerned of liberal sentiment or democratic tendency in the English people. How completely he regarded the multitude of the English nation as the spiritless victims of aristocratic oppression is shown in the letter

which, after recounting how "the Sabbatarians" rose against Sir Benjamin Hall's attempt to provide the populace with Sunday concerts in the Parks, attributes to fear of military punishment the peacefulness with which the Londoners submitted to the Archbishop of Canterbury's interference with their pleasures. "A slight apprehension," the ambassador wrote to Mr. Marcy, "is entertained that the disappointed, on Sunday next, the day after tomorrow, will show their spunk and vexation by some outbreaks. No fear of that at the present epoch. John Bull is as effectually nozzled and foot-tied, under the auspices of police, Horse Guards, and Life Guards, as his majestic representative, the Lion, in the Zoological Gardens, is caged in iron." If we could imagine the Washington Government as being dependent, no less in fact than in theory, on its envoy for information concerning the English people, we might tremble for the results of the counsels of any ambassador so comically ignorant of our nation as Mr. Dallas shows himself to have been when he penned the foregoing words in the May of 1856. On discovering that Englishmen of the inferior grades were not such slaves as he had imagined, and that our people of patrician quality were not devoid of sympathy with the spirit of their generation, the American critic could only refer to Transatlantic example the social conditions which occasioned him lively astonishment. "I think, too," he remarked to Mr. Marcy, "our steady adherence to republican doctrines, accompanied by the constantly augmenting prosperity and power of the country, are visibly undermining their prejudices, and letting in upon their thoughts, their manners, and even their conversation, a great deal more of democracy than they themselves are conscious of." Again he remarks, "All this magnificence of ceremonial and pretension is fast being undermined, even among the proudest peers, by our republican principles accompanied by our wonderful prosperity: and before any one of your children reaches fifty, it will have vanished, like the hues of a rainbow for ever. Let them see it before it fades." Macaulay, according to Mr. Dallas, was made a peer in deference to American sentiment, and at the dictation of a writer and politician of the United States. "You perceive," wrote the ambassador to his Government, "that Macaulay has been made a Peer. Well, I ascribe his promotion as much to Horace Greeley, of the *New York Tribune*, as to a real sense of his merits." It is difficult for an Englishman to imagine the conditions which render it possible for an American politician to suppose that peers are created in London on the nomination of New York journalists. Impressed with a proper sense of his country's importance, Mr. Dallas entertained an inordinately high and embarrassing estimate of his own importance, as the representative of so mighty a nation; and on several occasions this official self-satisfaction engendered a personal self-consciousness of a decidedly ludicrous kind. He could not wear his plain black suit at St. James's without congratulating himself on the richness of its cloth, and the excellence of its fashion. "My coat," he assured Mr. Marcy in a diplomatic communication, "which I am bold to say was as well made and of as good cloth as any in the Palace (except perhaps Prince Albert's), came from the shop

of a tailor in Philadelphia, Sixth above Arch, of the name of Kelly." The letters contain several other passages illustrative of the delight which the statesman derived from the republican simplicity of his official integuments—a delight which shows that to be a fop it is not necessary to wear lace and brocade, or don clothes of the newest fashion. Once in a long while the letter-writer gives us a social picture in the following style:—

"On Monday last, Lady Morgan (Sydney Owen-son, the Wild Irish Girl, *Ida of Athens*, etc.) summoned me to meet a friend of hers at lunch. I went at half-past-two. Her house is a small curiosity shop, crowded with interesting relics. She has Voltaire's writing-chair, and a sketch of his study. The walls are literally concealed by likenesses and autographs. Everything, like herself, is '*en petit*' and antique, except the music she never fails to enlist. She is so short that, when sitting, her feet can't reach the floor. Her vivacity is boundless, and her intellectual attractions recognized, as you will see, by the first minds of the age. She dresses as you must imagine a discreet sylph would dress—that is, in a mass of light, many-coloured gossamer stuff, with ribbons flying in all directions, and a fanciful coquettish cap. Well! she rouges highly, and, though turned of eighty, might, under the magnetic mask of wit, were her sight and hearing not imperfect, pass for something over fifty. She placed me on her right, at her little round table, and inquired in a whisper if I was aware of the celebrities present. 'They were a cluster of brilliants, and I knew them all.' Here you have them. Close on my right sat Macaulay, the fullest and fastest man in conversation I ever met with; his only defect an uncontrollable effort, arising from excessive self-esteem, to monopolize the talk. On the left of Lady Morgan was Lord Carlisle, the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland (Morpeth). Then came Hallam (Middle Ages), a most interesting person in appearance and manners, suffering to such an extent from disease as to be unable to walk without help, and perhaps evincing a partial loss of mental energy. There, too, was that most excellent historian of Greece, Grote, whom I like and respect the more every time I see him. Near him, and opposite the hostess, twinkled away the pink eyes of Albino Lowe, the only highly-gifted individual of that species, perhaps, in being; and we rounded off with Charles Villiers, a true, talented, and uncompromising liberal—I had almost said democrat, albeit the brother of Clarendon; Monckton Milnes, a poet, politician, parliamentary speaker, and ready converser; and, though last far from least, Lady Combermere. Now, I won't indulge in repeating the numberless admirable things said at this cosy lunch, during about an hour and a half. The eagerness to talk far outstripped the eagerness to eat. At one time, I believe every man was leaning forward over the table and giving to the whole unlistening company his particular idea. The bursts of merriment were unceasing. If I were a bookmaking tourist, I am certain that I could expand the intellectual gold at this lunch through an octavo of leaves. Review the names, and realize its character."

Before Mr. Dallas returned to America, Macaulay had spoken his last word, and his body, or "earthy residuum" as the diplomatic correspondent prefers to call it, had been interred in Westminster Abbey under circumstances which failed to meet with the American censor's unqualified approval. Mr. Dallas is indignant that the great door of Westminster Abbey was not opened to receive the literary man's coffin, and he objects to the choice made of a spot for the historian's grave. "But wherefore in the 'Poets' Corner'?" wrote the ambassador. "Assuredly he wrote verses, and good ones too; but they were thrown into dark eclipse by his *Essays and History*. In this last department, wherein he chiselled hard at the

column of his fame, his integrity has often been assailed: and it may be that his dust is mingled with that of 'Rare Ben Jonson,' Shakspeare, Pope, to intimate that he excelled in fiction even when handling fact." When we remember the large number of Americans who are drawn annually to the poet's shrine at Stratford-upon-Avon, it appears strange that the American representative should have fallen into the error of supposing that Shakspeare found his last resting-place in Westminster Abbey. The mistake is of no great importance, but it is noteworthy as a sample of the kind of ignorance which the letter-writer displays concerning English matter of higher moment.

*Commentary on the Gospel according to St. Matthew.* By James Morison, D.D. (Hamil-ton, Adams & Co.)

*The Gospel according to St. Mark.* A New Translation, with Critical Notes and Doctrinal Lessons. By J. H. Godwin. (Hodder & Stoughton.)

*Judged by his Words: an Attempt to Ascertain a certain kind of Evidence respecting Christ.* (Longmans.)

THESE three works bearing upon the interpretation of the Gospels may be classed together, though they relate to different parts of the Gospels, and have different objects in view. Of all it may be said, generally, that they throw no new light on the critical problems which have recently stirred the deepest thoughts of theologians, and still exercise on their minds a fascinating though often delusive influence. Pitched in an orthodox key by conservative writers, and ignoring to a great extent the investigations of such as have endeavoured to probe the most difficult questions relating to the life of Jesus and its records to the bottom, they contribute nothing to our knowledge: so far from that, they are rather hindrances to its advance. While men like Strauss, Baur, Keim, Schenkel, Scholten and others have been opening up the gravest topics, disseminating doubts, raising difficulties, and scattering seeds of unbelief in the narratives and authenticity of the Gospels, which have taken root in not a few minds even in England, these authors pay small heed to the speculations, probably thinking them of little value. They are pretty well satisfied with the old way of treating the Gospels, and believe that the mass of the people will not listen to new-fangled notions which overturn cherished faiths. We fear, however, that thinking clerics and acute laics, though comparatively few, are more or less influenced by the negative critics of the day; and if their minds be in such a state, views hostile to traditionalism must gradually filter into the people and produce their natural effect.

The Commentary of Dr. Morison on the Gospel of St. Matthew is a very large one, extending to 700 pages. It is the work of one who has read extensively, and expended some thought on the sacred book. To our taste it is too copious and diffuse, containing a great deal that might be dispensed with. All the notes or parts of notes that exhibit preaching or Scotch lecturing seem to be mere padding, especially as the author repeats the same ideas very often. The Commentary is far from excellent, because the writer has a very dog-



matic and positive way of settling serious difficulties, dealing in strong assertion more than logical proof. The Introduction treats of those general questions which test a man's critical ability; and consists of no less than sixty-four pages. Both its matter and manner can scarcely be regarded as models of successful writing. In examining the original language of St. Matthew's Gospel, the author asserts, with his usual dogmatism, "There is not the shadow of a reason why we should doubt that Matthew himself composed our present Greek Gospel." Again, in reply to the question, Was St. Matthew the Apostle really the writer of the Gospel which goes by his name? we have, "Undoubtedly he was. Why should it be doubted, unless everything historical be doubted?" And then he proceeds to refute the observations of Bleek, Meyer, and Dr. Davidson. The whole Introduction is unsatisfactory. Dr. Morison has neither the learning nor the ability to treat the topics he handles so confidently with success. He ought to know, for example, that St. Catherine's Monastery, where Tischendorf got the Sinaitic MS., is not on Mount Zion, but on Sinai. Dr. Morison has a strange notion of evidence when he urges in favour of "the definite publication, at a precise time, of the full Greek Gospel according to Matthew, just as we now have it," what he calls a *graphical* erratum in xxvii. 9, viz., *Jeremiah* for *Zechariah*. He tells us that it arose from "a momentary lapsus on the part of the professional reader, who would be dictating to the transcribers in the publisher's office;" that is, he exalts into a point of evidence a baseless fancy of his own! His interpretation of the 24th chapter evades the inherent difficulties, or resolves them in an unnatural way. By supposing that *then*, in the 23rd verse, means *thereafter*, looking indefinitely forward (a sense perfectly arbitrary), he solves the difficulty in the word *immediately* of the 29th verse, because "the Saviour had gone forward in his 'second seeing' from the scenes connected with the destruction of Jerusalem." The entire chapter refers to the destruction of Jerusalem and the personal coming of the Son of Man in immediate connexion with that catastrophe. All, therefore, that the interpreter has to do is to show how the prediction of these events consisted with the perfect knowledge possessed by the speaker, especially as his coming did not take place at that time. No light on the point emanates from the present volume.

The second work, on the Gospel of St. Mark, proceeds from a thoughtful and acute man. But his translation, though more accurate than the authorized, is bald: and he departs from the latter unnecessarily. The best part of the book is the Doctrinal Lessons, which may be useful to Sunday-School teachers. The Introduction, discussing the general questions of authorship, date, object, characteristics, plan, mutual relations of the Gospels, contains many unfounded statements; and it is evident that the writer is unacquainted with the most recent literature on the subject. Mr. Godwin has a strange way of asserting what is either palpably incorrect, or lacks all probability. Thus, he says that Papias's description of the Gospel of St. Mark exactly agrees with the document, which is contrary to fact; that the chronological order is always observed by St. John, and generally by St.

Mark and St. Luke; that "the seeming" contradictions of the Evangelists show their independence on one another, without any copying; and that many of Our Lord's discourses were spoken in Greek. The author has taken up his position on the harmony-ground, believing that the four writers can be brought into perfect agreement. His long note on the date of the paschal supper, repeating the view of Dr. Robinson in reconciling the synoptists and John, is a failure. In ii. 26, by translating *in the presence of Abiathar*, he tries to escape a difficulty. The version is wrong; our English one right. At i. 2, he rejects the true reading, "in the prophet Isaiah," as "an incorrect completion of the text from a comparison with the other Gospels." In vii. 3, his version, "unless for a pygmy's length they wash the hands and arms," is unintelligible to an English reader. On the whole, we are dissatisfied with the work, not because it is respectably orthodox, but because the author has set about his task with preconceived ideas of harmony, authenticity and inspiration, that often distort his expositions.

The third book is an attempt to set forth the character and nature of Christ from his words. For this purpose, passages of the Gospels are placed at the heads of sections, and an explanation or paraphrase subjoined. A summary at the end gives, first, what is *proved, shown or displayed*; secondly, what is *claimed or asserted*. It is impossible, however, to separate entirely the words and the deeds of Christ. They ought not to be divided. The writer himself has not consistently or uniformly done so; so that his conclusions are not the result of the words alone. Most critics of the present day assume that *all* the words ascribed to Christ in the Gospels were not really uttered by him. Our author is not concerned about this, and takes the records as they are.

The incompetency of the author for a successful discussion of the subject appears from many parts of the volume. Thus, among *proved*, he puts identity of Christ's risen body with that in which he had been crucified; and he alters "Have faith in God" (Mark xi. 22) into "Have the faith of God,"—that is, "faith of excellent strength." Two cleansings of the Temple are adopted: one at the beginning of Christ's ministry, the other near its close. The anonymous author is not aware of the great improbability attaching to this assumption. In explaining the call of St. Matthew, we find this reflection: "Here we see the wonderful independence and boldness of Christ in choosing a man of Matthew's occupation"; and the Samaritans who refused hospitality on a certain occasion are termed "surly half-breeds." The language of the Saviour in passing through this writer's mind is remarkably weakened and spoilt; so that the paraphrase sometimes looks like a caricature.

The Appendix contains strictures on Dr. Davidson's late 'Introduction to the Gospels.' Here the author's powers of criticism, as well as his prejudices, come out in strong colours. His lucubrations are behind the day; and he is not the man to stop the honest inquiries of scholars, much less to expose their weaknesses. Entrenched as he is in a conservative case, he may decry the higher criticism; but whatever may be thought of its conclusions, they will not be affected by the feeble shafts of one

like him who has written the book before us.

*Amye Robsart and the Earl of Leicester; a Critical Inquiry into the Authenticity of the various Statements in relation to the Death of Amye Robsart, and of the Libels on the Earl of Leicester, with a Vindication of the Earl by his Nephew, Sir Philip Sydney; and a History of Kenilworth Castle, including an Account of the splendid Entertainment given to Queen Elizabeth by the Earl of Leicester in 1575, from the Works of Robert Laneham and George Gascoigne; together with Memoirs and Correspondence of Sir Robert Dudley, Son of the Earl of Leicester.* By George Adlard. (J. R. Smith.)

THERE are few families that have experienced so much good and ill luck as the Dudleys. The first of them who stands prominent in history was that Dudley who built up such brilliant fortune in the reign of the first Tudor, and who was hanged for his manner of building it in the reign of the second. John, the son of the hanged Dudley, mated nobly, and became Earl of Warwick and Duke of Northumberland. He, a gentleman and a scholar, loved scholars; he charmed them, as he did all hearers, by the grace of his eloquence; yet that most persuasive of tongues could not keep its owner's head upon his shoulders, and when the great Duke was executed the glory of his house seemed gone.

The Dudleys, however, were not people whose greatness could be easily extinguished. John Dudley, the beheaded duke, left four sons, some of whom made frantic snatches at fortune; they often grasped it, but they were unable to hold what they grasped, and very hard measure fell to the lot of more than one. While John, the eldest, was lucky enough to die (soon after his father) at Penshurst, under no worse circumstances than being "attainted," Guilford, the youngest, trying to gain the throne by means of his young wife, Lady Jane Grey, brought about the tragedy on Tower Green. Ambrose Dudley, the second brother in age, was restored to the earldom of Warwick, held by his father, with remainder to his next brother, Robert Dudley; but he tarnished the honour of England and his own, for he was the unlucky general who surrendered Havre to the French in 1563, bringing back with his discomfited army the plague, which carried off 20,000 Londoners, including many of the nobility. This disaster was hardly compensated for by the Earl's patronage of Fro-bisher, to whom he supplied the means of making his first voyage of discovery. When Ambrose died in 1589 his brother and heir, the more famous Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, had been dead about a year, and Queen Elizabeth had indorsed one of his billets, still extant in the State Paper Office, with the significant words, "His last letter."

All these brothers, John, Ambrose, Robert and Guilford Dudley, died childless, or without legitimate heirs. The son of Robert, whose life is related in Mr. Adlard's book, claimed to be the lawful heir, and (though unsuccessfully) not as it would seem without great show of reason. The sister of the above-named brothers (Mary) married Sir Henry Sydney, of Penshurst. Thence came in the next generation a new earldom of Leicester,

and, better still, valour, beauty and virtue to grace it. Philip Sydney came of that marriage, and the famous Mary, who was "Sydney's sister, Pembroke's mother." Later, among children of the second earl of this line, figure Algernon Sydney; Henry Sydney, whose manly beauty excited admiration in the hearts of Queens; and that immortal Dorothea whom Waller pretended to love (for we have no faith in the reality of the so-called passion), under the name of Sacharissa.

In Mr. Adlard's book the prominent figures are the two Robert Dudleys, the father and the son, and that Amy Robsart of whom the general world knew nothing till Sir Walter Scott misled them. In 'Kenilworth,' that novelist not only misrepresented the lady, but made a villain of Sir Richard Varney; and, under the name of "Tony Fire-the-faggot," gave a renown to Anthony Forster which is entirely belied by the testimony on that worthy individual's tombstone. With regard to Amy Robsart's personal history, we suppose it is not so widely known as we should have thought it to be, since Mr. Adlard has written so copiously on the subject. Dudley married her publicly, in the presence of Edward the Sixth, and her sire, Sir John, gave her a dowry of 20*l.* a-year, under a deed in which she is named, not Amy, but *Anne Robsart*. In 1560 this Lady Robert Dudley died. Her death was the consequence of a fall down stairs, at Cumnor Place. The coroner's jury found the death to be accidental, but sinister rumours got abroad. Perhaps the best evidence in Dudley's favour is that he had no interest in his wife's death, although he does not appear to have killed her with kindness. All the love-passages of this couple in Scott's 'Kenilworth' are as pure fiction as those between Clärchen and Egmont in Goethe's play, from which they are copied. The story of Amy Robsart wandering in search of her husband, Leicester, and of her living in complete retirement, that Elizabeth might not come across her, is no more in accordance with fact than the burlesque of it all in Messrs. Halliday & Lawrence's extravaganza, where it seemed the most natural thing in the world for Wayland Smith to exclaim—

Oh my goodness, oh my gracious!  
You don't mean for to go for to say  
That you are the Countess of Leicester  
Wandering about in this array!

It is now well known that Amy Robsart never was Lady Leicester. In 1573, more than a dozen years after her death, when her widowed lord, then Earl of Leicester, had been dismissed as one of Queen Elizabeth's public suitors, he is said to have privately married, in Canon Row, the widow of Lord Sheffield, the Lady Douglas Howard, daughter of William, Lord Howard of Effingham. Such a wedding can scarcely be said to have been made in haste, since the younger Robert Dudley of this book was born only a couple of days after the ceremony was performed. This incident too was kept secret; but such a secret soon becomes public property. This marriage, secretly re-solemnized, it is said, at Esher, was so private that Leicester was able to practically deny it altogether by marrying, at Wanstead House, in 1578 (Lady Sheffield being still alive), Lettice Knollys, the widowed Countess of Essex, mother of the unfortunate Earl whom Elizabeth at once reluctantly and

resolutely beheaded. The courtiers called her and the other wife "Leicester's old and new testament." Lady Sheffield took her revenge, and ruined her son's cause by marrying, in the same year, 1578, Sir Edward Stafford, of Grafton! Leicester made a will, in which he bequeathed his interest in Kenilworth, then occupied by his brother Ambrose, to his son Robert Dudley, but he expressly described this son as "illegitimate." It was against this taint on her fame and her son's good name that Lady Sheffield, as a true Lady Leicester, never ceased to do battle after Leicester's death. While young Robert Dudley was yet a child, she is said to have taken him for the subject of the verses beginning—

Balance, my babe, lie still and sleep;  
It grieves me sair to see thee weep.

When Robert Dudley was old enough to assert his own legitimacy, in the reign of James, his aged mother came to his aid. She declared that she had been legally married to Leicester, but that the Earl frightened her into secrecy by threatening to poison her; and, if she may be believed, he actually did administer poison enough to make her hair fall off, and thus give her a foretaste, as it were, of what might ensue if she betrayed his confidence. We will here remind our readers of the fortunes of Kenilworth. Robert Dudley, who inherited it at his uncle's death, sold it to Prince Henry, from whom it passed to the crown. James bestowed the title of Earl of Warwick on Robert Rich, who had married the famous, or infamous, Penelope, sister of the hapless Earl of Essex. As Penelope and the Earl were the children by a former marriage of Leicester's third wife, the title did not seem to go far astray. When the Earls of the Rich family died out, in the middle of the last century, title and castle passed to the Grevilles, by whom they are still held; and as these Grevilles are descendants of the Beauchamps, Earls of Warwick in the thirteenth and two following centuries, they represent an ancient line. The title of Earl of Warwick was assumed by the "illegitimate" Robert Dudley (when he was abroad) as general heir to the Dudley honours. The assumption was clearly illegal.

But, Earl or not, legitimate or otherwise, the story of Robert Dudley is striking. When he was a boy at Owen Jones's school at Offington, near Worthing, his father called him "Robin," and spoke of him to Owen as his lawful son. At the age of fourteen Robert was entered at Christ Church as "Comitis filius"; and had not Leicester died the following year, 1588, the fortunes of the splendid and wayward young Englishman would probably have been different from what they were. Leicester left him the bulk of his large property; but, as we have said, he expressly described him as illegitimate. Robert grew up to be one of the handsomest and cleverest young men of his day. If he spent his money, he did not spare his brains; and he had high aspirations, for he was ambitious of becoming a maritime explorer; but the Queen's Government, calling him "*Mr. Dudley*," refused to give him any assistance. At twenty-one he helped himself, and led an expedition to the West Indies at his own charge, from which he returned laden with such honour as was then to be got by "burning the King of Spain's beard." It was not for this service he was knighted, as that distinction was conferred on him, by Essex, on

account of his gallantry at Cadiz. That Dudley should love books was natural, for some of the oldest of the volumes now in the Lambeth Library come from his father's shelves. His taste for navigation was derived from his uncle, Earl Ambrose, the friend of Frobisher; and he followed his uncle's tastes and his father's practice—first, when he married the sister of Cavendish the navigator; and, secondly, when he left her, to marry (at the close of Elizabeth's reign) the good and beautiful Alice Leigh, the fairest of the daughters of the baronet of that name.

Wayward in love, wayward in rule of life, and wayward in the pursuit of his studies, Dudley became earnest in one thing, soon after the accession of James,—in establishing his legitimacy. When that King arbitrarily stopped the legal proceedings, Dudley's tongue grew saucy, and he received a three years' licence to travel,—which was, in fact, a three years' exile; but he was no sooner abroad than he assumed the title of Earl of Warwick, and the King ordered him home. On the exile's refusal to go to England to be in durance, the King impounded all his estates; but England's loss was Italy's profit. Dudley looked to his comforts and pleasures as his father might have done. On leaving England he had abandoned Alice Leigh, his wife, and their seven daughters. He took abroad a pretty page; but, when beyond sea, the page turned out to be Elizabeth Southwell, cousin of the Jesuit poet who was hanged, and a lady of good family but of strong passions. Dudley wished to marry the runaway, and Pope Urban the Eighth thought the wish so reasonable that he granted a dispensation for the match. Dudley must have professed the page's religion, or the dispensation would never have been granted. Alice Leigh, being a Protestant, was no wife at all in the eyes of the Pontiff.

At the Court of the Grand Dukes of Tuscany, Cosmo the Second and Ferdinand the Second, Robert Dudley showed that versatility which was so much admired in his time. Courtier, scholar, statesman, philosopher, mathematician, engineer, physician and spendthrift nobleman, no character came amiss to him, and in every character he was the devoted servant of the Grand Duke and a friend to Italy. He wrote learned treatises, drained the morasses between Pisa and the sea, which raised Leghorn from a village to a sea-port where an English factory was soon established; and he invented "the Earl of Warwick's powders," which were a fashionable medicine selling in Pall Mall within the recollection of persons yet living! For all which accomplishments, added to the sum of many others, the Emperor of Germany made Robert a Duke of the Holy Roman Empire. Dudley added to the personal dignity a territorial title, and called himself, as his grandfather, John Dudley, had been called, Duke of Northumberland.

Notwithstanding all he was doing for Italy and all he was gaining by it, his thoughts sometimes turned towards home; and he did his utmost to strip his deserted wife and children of the portion of his property on which they narrowly lived! It was in order to make a friend at Court, that he offered to let Kenilworth go to Prince Henry for 14,000*l.* The prince paid 3,000*l.* into an agent's hands, who failed, and His Highness would pay no more; so the "Duke of



Northumberland" gained little by the bargain. To secure the king, Dudley wrote secretly a "Proposition for His Majesty's service to bridle the impertinence of parliaments"; but it was of no advantage to the writer, and only brought illluck, subsequently, to men who were suspected of the authorship. We fear that we shall deprive Dudley of all sympathy when we state that another of his plans for the profit of the Crown (and for his own ultimate benefit) was a gigantic project of overwhelming taxation which even embraced payment for a licence for the eating of eggs!

Another of Dudley's projects refers to ship-building, of which art he was a great master; but he was tenacious about the secret of his inventions, and all that we know of his new sort of swift ram, if it was that, we learn from himself, as he tells it in a letter dated 1613:—

"I have found out a certain manner of vessel, that I can do, of so wonderful consequence in force and swiftness, as I dare boldly say, the like was never known to the world, and wonderfully far beyond those I mentioned in my discourse to the Prince, my master, of famous memory, so as I do hold them nothing in comparison of this, being as fleet as they, not passing 10 foot water, but tidier, as swift in sailing as all ships are, they, besides these, can road [ride] as well as any galliass, but endure the sea and storms as well as the King's ships, which is the importance of the secret and advantage in fight, besides their huge force, which is the greatest that ever the world saw; for some skilful [persons] that I have showed my design, (though they are not the nearer for doing of it,) yet can judge and conclude absolutely that not three of the King's greatest ships royal, though you make the Princess one, is able to endure the force of one of these; in fine, it is not credible her force and qualities. I call this a counter-galliass, being invented upon the occasion mentioned to overthrow them, because where these come the galliasses must depart, though they be five or six for one."

Dudley did not gain what he hoped for. He was left a useful, if not an honourable prize, to Italy, where he and his Duchess kept house such as the Emperor could hardly excel for stateliness. The daughter of the pious Southwells died in good repute, as Dudley did later, at his Castle of Carbello, near Florence, in 1649. But the play was not all played out. One of the last acts of Charles the First was to make a Duchess for life of Robert's wife, according to our Church, law, nature and honour,—Alice Leigh. In Henry the Eighth's time, when the monastic properties were seized, a good portion of St. Giles's fell to the John Dudley we have already named, and some part of this was settled on Alice Leigh, with the title of Duchess Dudley. She had a beautiful mansion and a beautiful garden there. Dudley Street continues to perpetuate her memory; but it is the street which was once called Monmouth Street. The memory of the Duchess is best preserved in her long list of charities. She died in 1669. Among the hundred items of greater utility is the following little provision:—"She also allowed a yearly stipend to the sexton of the church to toll the great bell when the prisoners condemned to die shall be passing by, and to ring out after they shall be executed." And see the strange chances and mischances of life and its story! Robert Dudley and Elizabeth Southwell had, among other children, a son Charles, who married into the French ducal family of Rohanet. A daughter of this marriage wedded with the Marchese di Palliotti, and the son

and daughter of this couple were well known in England. The daughter, Adelhida, became the wife of Charles Talbot, the one-eyed Duke of Shrewsbury, whom Queen Mary and Lady Marlborough loved, who brought in William, intrigued with James, and, at the death of Anne, aided and abetted in keeping out her brother, and bringing in the House of Hanover. That House had not been long on the throne when Adelhida's brother, Ferdinando Marchese di Palliotti, being displeased with his valet, manifested his displeasure by killing him; and he went in the cart from Newgate to Tyburn past St. Giles's: so the sexton tolled his knell for the wages left by Robert Dudley's deserted wife. However loosely those Dudleys married and re-married, Robert was born the son of a couple sworn (but not proved) to have been legally wed. It is believed that his claim would have been established in James's reign but for the influence of Lettice Knollys. To marry her Leicester had denied his after-acknowledged marriage with Lady Sheffield, and Lady Sheffield, by her wedding with Sir E. Stafford, seemed to have acknowledged she was not Leicester's wife.

There is nothing more to be said, except that Mr. Adlard has taken great pains in compiling his volume, and that Sir Walter Scott took none at all when he wrote the brilliant novel of 'Kenilworth,' with complete disregard of all the materials which he possessed in abundance. The truth looked less probable than his fiction.

#### NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

*The Bond of Honour.* 3 vols. (Bentley.)

*Brought to Book.* By Henry Spicer. 2 vols. (Tinsley Brothers.)

*The Flower of Kildalla.* By Elizabeth Alice Murray. 3 vols. (Chapman & Hall.)

"GEFÜHL IST ALLES." This is the text prefixed by the author to an interesting, if melancholy, tale, written with the view of maintaining "in a realistic age" the supremacy of the ideal. We will not say that the most has been made of so large a subject, or that the imaginative hero of the tale would not have been much improved by a dash of "realistic" common sense; but a novel which appeals for success to the nobler side of human nature is so rare and praiseworthy a variety among works of fiction, that we could well condone, for its object's sake, more numerous shortcomings than this book presents to our notice. The "bond of honour" which involves poor Arthur Lovell is the noose of an imprudent engagement, by which he has bound himself some years before the opening of the tale to a mercenary beauty, who cares little for him, though much for his expectations of wealth and title, and who has ensnared the sentimental youth partly by the affectation of sympathy, still more by her external charms. Indeed we cannot help observing that for so spiritual a character, Arthur is much fettered by his earthly trammels, and shows throughout an undue appreciation of the physical side of female beauty. This engagement, into which he has plunged in defiance of his father, a fine old English gentleman of much determination of character, proves an obstacle to his happiness at home, and accordingly we find him, after some years' travel on the Continent, settled under the assumed name of Vaughan, in the bosom of a German family at Bonn,

and learning the language from the fair daughter of the house. Louise, poor girl, whose name is by a fatal coincidence the same as that of Arthur's fiancée, is slowly but surely fascinated by the intellectual graces of the poetic Englishman, who returns her attachment with a Platonic admiration, to which men of his calibre too frequently assert their right, and which the simple German too readily mistakes for love. In spite of this fatal misunderstanding they live on happily enough, amid the appropriate scenery of sentimental Rhineland, till the arrival of a charming young American, who awakes in Arthur's heart the true passion which as yet has slumbered. Restrained by the "bond of honour," he struggles honourably with his fate, and not until the arrival of Florence Lovell's father from America, and the consequent approaching separation of the lovers, does the enforced disclosure of their mutual feelings necessitate an explanation. Long ere this, however, the unfortunate Louise has been informed of the state of affairs, and a change which, at first sight, one would pronounce unnatural has come over that loving nature. Called suddenly away from Bonn to attend a dying aunt, who is ending an unamiable existence at a distance from all her friends, she has not been present to avert in any way the impending failure of her hopes. The grief which she could not repress at her departure had called forth from Arthur too warm an expression of sympathy, and an evil chance had at the same time put into her hands a copy of verses intended for the other Louise, and written at a time when Arthur was first entangled in that wily beauty's net. With such materials on which to build his hopes, what wonder that the tidings of the new attachment should almost madden her, especially when insidiously conveyed to her knowledge by the malicious kindness of a jealous sister? The result is a tragic end to three passionate existences. Her dying aunt having been poisoned with an over-dose of some narcotic, she hastens back to Bonn to find, as she thinks, her worst fears realized; in the course of a mountain walk, while Florence is leaning on her arm, in a fit of jealous revenge she lets her fall over a precipice. Florence lives to be united to Arthur, when his former love has finally renounced him for a wealthier rival, but survives her marriage only long enough to taste the happiness of which she cannot on this earth have complete fruition. Louise lives on, in misery and madness; and Arthur in solitary hope of re-union with his murdered bride. Such is the sad end of an otherwise agreeable story. Surely a little principle, were it even a dash of that Calvinism at which our author gifts so savagely, would have been found a useful astringent to this wealth of too gushing sentimentalism? For the rest, the story is ably written, continental life well described, and it is frequently a cheerful variety to find the moral purpose of the book relieved by really witty examples of national and individual character.

'Brought to Book' is a very appropriate name for Mr. Spicer's work, in which several minor tales that originally appeared in *All the Year Round* and *Chambers's Edinburgh Journal*, are brought together and made to form two good-sized volumes. *Réchauffés* are not very much admired as a rule by an intelligent public, but we can recommend the present sketches as being quite worthy of a second

perusal,—an observation which is now-a-days remarkable for the smallness of its application. Some of the contents, moreover, are sure not to have been read even by a tale-devourer of the most inordinate appetite, and we can therefore still more strongly recommend Mr. Spicer's work with every certainty of not disappointing those who act upon our recommendation. The tales vary in size and character, but the writing throughout is bright and amusing, and there is that peculiar sense of humour displayed which is absolutely indispensable for the success of short sketches like the present. Perhaps it may add to the attractions if we mention that there are several ghost stories, some very nice love tales, and only one narrative of a voyage; and as that voyage is only "to and from Tunis," and does not require any knowledge of geography, nor attempt at all offensively to improve, instruct, or astonish, this one isolated description of travel can be guaranteed not to bore the most devout novel-reader, and may therefore be read by him without fear of the result. Need we say more?

The author of 'The Flower of Kildalla' takes credit to herself in the Preface because her work is not "sensational." We are not certain that we agree with the lady in this. In the first place, a certain sensation—of a not very pleasing character—was undoubtedly produced upon us by a perusal of the work; but probably we should be unjust to the author in attributing to her any intention to use the word "sensational" in the sense of the effect it was to produce upon her readers. We therefore pass on to consider the application of the word in its second sense. And here, without going so far, or being so rude, as to directly contradict a lady, we must most respectfully, but at the same time firmly, insist that Mrs. Murray's book possesses a great many of the faults of the "sensational" school; while we frankly own that its chief incidents are quite free from the charge of creating any "excitement" in the reader's mind. The first particular fault we have to find is, that there are so many different people in whom we are asked to take an interest that it ends in our taking an interest in no one. Shortly put, the story may be thus described. The heroine, Louisa Desmond, who gives the title to the work, flies from her home some time before the opening of the tale, and her friends know nothing of her except by an advertisement in the "agony column" of the *Times*. After the lapse of about three years, two ladies, who are living alone during the absence of the husband of one of them, receive a large hamper directed to their house, and on opening it find a child of three years of age, apparently drugged. They are struck by the likeness of the child to their own family, and after many months, through the agency of the advertising columns of the *Times*, they find the lost "Louisa," who is of course the mother of the child. Equally of course, "Louisa" dies immediately after the discovery, and leaves an explanation of her life since she left her home. This life, if given by Mr. Jingle's process, would run thus—"Married to Captain Heathcote—deserted—stage—misery." The reader can supply details for himself *ad libitum*, for there are plenty of them in the book. Some of these details, we must say, are very unnatural, and some almost revolting. It is very unnatural, for instance, that the sister of the heroine, who is supposed to be much attached to "The Flower,"

should take an unalterable aversion to her sister's only child, merely because it is Captain Heathcote's offspring; and it is a little trying to find the sister pushing her niece down the stairs and hurting her head so severely as to make her an idiot for life. We have already said that the tale is long. This is principally due to the author's partiality for minute descriptions of dress. Take, as an example, Mildred Davarell's wedding, where will be found faithfully recorded the get-up of the bride and the bridesmaids, from the dresses themselves to "the little diamond lockets palpitating and shimmering on all their throats as they breathed." Perhaps, after all, the worst failing of these three volumes is a slight tendency to plagiarism, with which we are very reluctantly obliged to charge the author. We ask unprejudiced judges to consider the character of "Captain John de Bracy Potter" with reference to our old friends "Chadband" and "Pecksniff," and also—if they will be so kind—to draw a parallel—not historical this time—between the Mrs. Gumpy of the present novel with Mrs. Gamp of undying fame. We resent the imitations we have alluded to the more because they are so bad. Had they been very good, we might have been induced to say nothing about them.

#### NEW POETRY.]

*The In-gathering.*—Cimon and Pero, *A Chain of Sonnets*, Sebastopol, &c. By John A. Heraud. (Simpkin, Marshall & Co.)

MR. HERAUD has spent a long and laborious life in the service of literature, and, in giving a title to the present volume, he signifies, not without a touch of pathos, that this, his latest work, is the feast of in-gathering, "which is the end of the year, when thou hast gathered in thy labours out of the field." We may at once say the result is satisfactory. Mr. Heraud always chooses for the exercise of his power a subject having in it somewhat of the terrible or the sublime. 'The Judgment of the Flood' and 'The Descent into Hell' are notable examples; and the poems now before us, although not so ambitious as those, are yet of elevated character. The first, 'Cimon and Pero,' is the legend which served Murphy as the basis of his 'Grecian Daughter.' It is composed in the measure of Shakespeare's 'Venus and Adonis,' "but in a style," adds the author, "more severe, bearing in this respect some relation to the 'Laodamia' of Wordsworth." The story is told clearly and forcibly, and is characterized both by delicacy in the selection of details suitable to poetic treatment, and by skill in execution. It is in the Sonnets, however, which occupy the bulk of the volume, that Mr. Heraud appears at his best. And here, again, he has exhibited his partiality for what is uncommon. Instead of allowing us to read the poems for what they are worth, he binds them together into a chain, gives them a substantive title, and insists upon supplying us, by way of premonition, with an interpretation of the allegory. If they must have a key, many readers will decline the trouble involved in its possession; but the author in this way, as in other ways, seems bent upon offending the taste of those to whom he is addressing himself simply from a desire to be odd, or to imitate great poets of a past age. The Sonnets are, however, really fine compositions of the sort. They are nervous, full of fancy (occasionally verging upon conceit), and, although highly polished, most of them are vigorous. Notwithstanding the intimation given as to the latent allegory to be sought for, we disconnect for quotation the two following as fair specimens of Mr. Heraud's ability. It will be seen that they may be understood without reference to the context.—

When thou art absent, and I shut my eyes,  
As oft I do at twilight, when the care

Of day yields passive sense to visions rare,  
Between my eyelids, lo, thy image lies,  
Entrancing mortal gaze with ecstasies,  
Breathed from thy form like music on the air;  
While conched on purple pillows, proud and fair,  
Like one but new descended from the skies,  
I note the triumph on thy radiant brow,  
Thy laughing eye, thy well-contented lip,  
Thy features all with conscious pride aglow,  
Rejoicing in the cunning workmanship,  
Which nature on thy beauty did bestow,  
That other beauty it must needs outstrip.

Not always in half-dreamy consciousness  
Such objects we behold; less pleasing some  
To terrify, bewilder, or distress.  
One such but lately did my soul oppress:  
Methought a chamber opened in my room,  
With couches furnished, overspread with gloom,  
Where pallid lazars pined, with none to bless.  
Then instantly another took its place—  
A prospect fair, with sky, hill, vale, and wood,  
And streaming, lapsing with a languid pace;  
Like silent Time, when in a quiet mood,  
He meditates to do the world a grace,  
And slowly thrills it with a vein of good.

The rest of the poems may remain unnoticed. 'The Mythos of the Plant' is a poetical version of a curious scientific fact. 'The One and the Many,' a rhythmical prose rendering of the first three verses in Genesis on what Mr. Heraud terms a corrected translation, is full of terms which will be caviare to the general. We do not understand the poem, and wonder—does the author?

*Echoes of the Past, Present and Future. With other Poems.* By W. Watman Smith. (Trübner & Co.)

"As a head without a heart may be compared to a soul without a body, so a book without a preface may allegorically be said to resemble a ship without a pilot: what a pilot is to a ship, a preface is to a book; and as the former often saves the ship from foundering, so the latter frequently preserves the book from slumbering in neglect on the shelf." This is at once a sample of our author's prose, and the excuse he makes for boring his reader with a preface which, instead of preserving his volume from neglect, will assuredly have the effect of discouraging any one except a reviewer from further perusal. We read one hundred and thirty-three pages when we discontinued our labours at the following stanza:—

Thus the scenes of our childhood pass in panoramic view,  
And youth and its connexions with a crowd of friends ensue,  
And though absence long has weaned us from the old paternal  
dome,

If our fancies don't deceive us there's no spot like that of home.

Mr. Smith is inclined to believe that poetry has gone out of fashion, and that we have few good living poets. The fault seems to be climatic. "Cold climates," he thinks, "seem to freeze up the imagination, while the warm sunbeams kindle and inspire it." Let us hope, if this be so, the present hot weather will serve to hatch a better poet than the author of 'Echoes of the Past, Present and Future.'

*The Wrath of Echo, and other Pieces in Verse.* By G. M. (Pickering.)

OF 'The Wrath of Echo' there is little to say in praise or dispraise except that being mediocre, it carries with it its own condemnation. If it is a first attempt, the author will doubtless think it prudent after this essay to do better before he next publishes, as we fear he will find there is little demand at present for such verse as that he has here presented to us. On the whole, the leading poem in the volume is better than the "other pieces." A few lines from the introductory epistle will show G. M.'s taste in metaphor—

But a rude torrent tears a wayward path,  
Now mildly ceasing and now blind with wrath;  
With pace capricious he his way hath worn,  
Dug deep, indented with his goring horn.

As a specimen of his usual style we give, without comment, the concluding stanza of 'The Wrath of Echo'—

The love of woman gilds our lives,  
Inspires the deed that long survives,  
Our hearts with fires the finest pure,  
From wayward crime our hand secures:  
Without it man no virtue knows,  
No honours green adorn his brows.

*A Medley of Rhymes for the Children.* Written and Translated by A. M. (Nisbet & Co.)

'A MEDLEY of Rhymes' is a simple unpretending little volume, written to amuse as well as instruct



children. The themes are well selected, and the versification is easy. Without possessing any remarkable merit as poetry, several of the small poems are likely to please those for whom they are designed.

*The Superior Animal; a Satire in Heroic Verse.* (Haddon & Co.)

FROM a woman's point of view, there is some degree of truth in the opinions propounded by the author of 'The Superior Animal'; but the satire has little point, and the heroic verse in which it is composed is not faultless.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*History of the Cathedral Church of Wells, as illustrating the History of the Cathedral Churches of the Old Foundation.* By Edward A. Freeman. (Macmillan & Co.)

WE have here a reprint of three lectures given at Wells in the course of last winter, and dealing in turn with the various periods of the history of Wells Cathedral. It is hardly necessary to say that Mr. Freeman's well-known characteristics mark his description of architectural features and his discussion of ecclesiastical questions. If the thoroughness of his study and his modest deference to those whom (in order to introduce them to the public) he terms his masters are conspicuous in these lectures, so is the habit of dogmatism combined with a love of paradox. All his admiration for Wells Cathedral does not prevent Mr. Freeman from declaring the noble west front a sham, thoroughly bad in principle, and thoroughly bad as a piece of architecture. We do not know whether this denunciation will have any tangible effect on the opinion of Wells itself and of those who visit it; but we think the west front will survive Mr. Freeman's censure. He will have done something, however, for the Cathedral, if he persuades people to listen to his attack on the system of confining service to the choir and leaving the nave idle and empty. On this subject he is simple and eloquent.

*Benoit de Sainte-More, et le Roman de Troie; ou, les Métamorphoses d'Homère et de l'Épopée Gréco-Latine au Moyen-Âge.* Par A. Joly. (Paris, Franck.)

THIS book will be very welcome to students of Middle-Age Literature, and has special claim to a warm greeting from Englishmen, for 'Le Roman de Troie' was written, as Wace's 'Roman de Brut' was, for our Queen Eleanor, wife of Henry the Second, "riche dame de riche roi," and Henry himself picked out Benoit in preference to Wace, to write for him the chronicle of the Dukes of Normandy. Hitherto Benoit's fame has been kept down by two inferior men,—by Wace, his rival chronicler of Normandy, on the one hand, and by Guido di Colonna on the other, whose long Latin prose romance the 'Historia de Bello Trojano,' finished in 1257, more than one hundred years after Benoit's French verse one, obtained more favour than its predecessor, and was printed in 1486, and often afterwards, was translated into Italian and German, and used by our own early poets as the basis of their Troy-books; indeed, the latter may be called translations of Guido too. It was not till 1836–1844 that Benoit's 'Chronicle of the Dukes of Normandy' was published, by M. Francisque Michel, in three volumes; it was not till the present year that Benoit's 'Romance of Troy' was published, and that, as fitting, by a professor of Caen, and the Society of Antiquaries of Normandy; for Benoit, like so many others of Henry the Second's brilliant court, was a Norman. The originals being now accessible, we may trust that justice will be done to Benoit's memory. For a formal review of the present book we have not space; our object being only to call attention to it, and to notice the extremely clever preface of M. Joly, in which he proves the identity of the Benoit of the Normandy Chronicle and the Benoit de Sainte-More of the Troy Romance, decides that he probably wrote the 'Romance of Eneas,' contrasts Wace and Benoit as chroniclers and poets, sketches Henry the Second and his court, draws the character of

Benoit, justifies the choice of the MS. No. 2181 of the Imperial Library to be printed as the most Norman text, and claims for Benoit the credit of being the earliest ancestor of the Renaissance, the introducer to the people of the Middle Ages of the heroes of antiquity, the revealer of the Greco-Latin epic poetry. Written with caution and critical reserve, and yet with enthusiasm, M. Joly's work is deserving of high praise, and we look forward with interest to the rest of the preface, which the editor promises speedily, the history of Benoit's book, its sources and changes, and the legends of Troy in France and neighbouring countries.

*Prælectiones Academicæ in Homerum, Oxonii habitæ Annis 1776–1783.* A Joanne Randolph, S.T.P. (Parker.)

THIS is a course of twenty-two lectures delivered at Oxford by Dr. Randolph as Professor of Poetry. The last of them preceded Wolf's Prolegomena by twelve years. It is difficult to understand why they should now, for the first time, have been printed by Dr. Randolph's son. They are excellent specimens of Latinity; but the day of Latin declamations is a little past. They show everywhere that the writer was a man of taste and had a genuine love of Homer; but it is not too much to say that there is hardly a single question raised in this book which has not since been fully discussed by much abler men, while many others have arisen which had then never been heard of. To Dr. Randolph, Homer is still a man who lived just a hundred years after the capture of Troy; and the use of writing in the Homeric age is clear from the letter of Proetus: while the unity of the Iliad "*ex nudo rerum in illa gestarum conspectu satis patet.*" There is a suspicion once or twice of "*Neoterici quidam,*" but neither their names nor their enormities are set forth. The description of the conditions of life in the Homeric age is derived directly from the poems, and is good enough; but it contains nothing which is not absolutely trite to this generation; and the dignity and importance of the Boulé and Agorá are much overrated. There is a short account of Homer's use of words, which is good, if regard be had to the time when it was written: cognate words are well grouped together, with a certain feeling after roots in each case, which, however, does not get nearer than, e.g. "*radix, μῆρμα.*" The ideas of derivation are primitive: *παῖς* and *δῶα* are derived from the future tenses of the cognate verbs, as they have reference, not to an "*opus absolutum,*" but to a "*potestas et modus agendi.*" But this is nothing to the history of the generation of the cases (p. 109). The nominative and accusative are rightly explained as denoting subject and object respectively; but since mankind commonly conceive together with these two ideas also the cause and result of the action described, therefore they attached to the noun further terminations, "*quæ his rebus exprimendis idoneæ essent:*" and this is the origin of the genitive and the dative! Other cases are left unexplained, probably as not occurring in Greek. But Dr. Randolph proceeds to say, acutely enough, there are still other relations conceivable, and these mostly relations in space: therefore, to denote these, the Greeks "*commenti sunt (!) orationis partem, Præpositiones scilicet.*" The ludicrous ignorance of the methods of language, which here accompanies so good a guess at principles, may make us thankful for the rise of Comparative Grammar.

*The Scottish Minstrel: the Songs and Song-Writers of Scotland subsequent to Burns. With Memoirs of the Poets.* By the Rev. Charles Rogers, LL.D. (Edinburgh, Nimmo.)

THAT Scotland can count up two hundred and twelve minstrels since Burns will not, probably, astonish Scotchmen, but the fact may perhaps surprise the rest of the world. This volume contains specimens to show that the authors were, in different degrees, real children of Song. Among them are three-and-twenty ladies, with Baroness Nairne at their head, the author of 'The Land of the Leal' and other popular ballads. Authorship of Scottish ballads is, however, a difficult matter to

establish. Lady Nairne, for instance, wrote 'Cauld Kail in Aberdeen,' but so did Alexander, Duke of Gordon, and so have various other minstrels, of whom, after all, only one is the author, and he, generally speaking, is not known. The process is well known: there is a rough, original ballad, old enough to be by nobody now knows who. This is taken in hand by more modern writers, each of whom treats it after his peculiar fashion, and according to his especial sympathies. On the whole, they spoil it: coarse Wit is thrust out, and insipid Commonplace is substituted for it. A wild, uncultivated, unkempt, outspoken, but rather handsome lad or lass is caught and adopted by the trapper. The savage is put into warm water, he is dried and essenced, pomatumed and painted, and fitted with the latest fashionable costume according to sex and the *Journal des Modes*. "That is my child," says the adopter, who, in point of fact, is no more the parent than Tait was the author of Shakspeare's 'King Lear.' A student of song-writing may find a good deal to astonish him if he collates the various ballads which have one name and a plurality of authors. In some cases, the process is not unlike that which Pope adopted with regard to Donne; but Pope did not call his improvement of Donne's Satires by the name of "Satires by Pope." Moreover, Pope made understandable what was before the contrary; whereas many Scotch ballad-mongers knock out the simple, original meaning, which stared you in the face, and put dainty phrases and nice words in their place. Out of a picturesque bothie that David Cox would have sketched with ecstasy, they make, by aid of *compo*, a Gothic chapel that might give a pang to a Goth; and they fancy they have manifested what indeed some are said to have been "cursed" with—namely, Taste. We do not say this in disparagement of the volume, but in proof of one point of interest out of the many by which it is marked. The collection is excellent; and we could only wish that every ballad that has been refined had been accompanied by the original from which it has been taken. We are not to be offended at rough but wholesome phraseology. In this matter, we feel as the Scotch tailor felt when Hogg, singing his own capital song, 'When the kye comes hame,' at a wedding party, gave the line, with grammatical gentility and priggishness, as "When the kye come hame." Then struck in an honest tailor with his comment, "That's a terrible affected way, that!" and Hogg never sang it in that way again. We have only to add that the editor has, altogether, accomplished his work successfully. He has not only enabled his readers to have a very full conception of the quality of Scottish song-writers since Burns, but, in his useful and well-condensed biographical notices, he gives a very fair outline of their personal history also. We must, however, notice one serious omission. Dr. Rogers has put several living poets under contribution, but he has left out Robert Buchanan altogether. The omission is inexplicable.

*A Guide to the Study and Arrangement of English Coins.* By H. W. Henfrey. (J. R. Smith.)

A USEFUL little volume, which does not attempt to rival the great works on the subject, but which provides a handy manual for the collector. The illustrations are well done.

WE have on our table *Thoughts on Life-Science*, by B. Place (Macmillan),—*Wintering at Mentone*, by W. Chambers (Chambers),—*Notes of a Season at St. Moritz*, by J. B. Yeo (Longmans),—*Wonderful Balloon Ascents*, from the French of F. Marion (Cassell),—*The Practitioner*, edited by F. E. Anstie, M.D., Vol. IV. (Macmillan),—*The Ammergau Passion Play*, by the Rev. M. McColl, M.A. (Rivingtons),—and *The Family and the Church*, by Rev. Father Hyacinthe (Low). Among new editions we have *Heat a Mode of Motion*, by J. Tyndall, LL.D. (Longmans),—*On Diet and Regimen in Sickness and Health*, by H. Dobell, M.D. (Lewis),—and *Bullen's Rudiments of English Grammar*, edited by the Rev. C. Heycock, A.M. (Longmans). Also the following pamphlets: *The Contagious Diseases Acts from a Sanitary Point of View*, by

C. B. Taylor, M.D. Part II. (Tweedie).—*A Résumé of the History of Hygiene*, by W. H. Corfield, M.A. (Lewis).—*The Jews in England*, a lecture by Rev. Dr. H. Adler (Longmans).—and *In Memoriam—Charles Dickens*, by J. W. Boulding.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

## Theology.

Church's (R. W.) *Saint Anselm*, Sunday Library, cr. 8vo. 4/6 cl.  
Dunn's (H.) *What saith the Scriptures?* Essays, 8vo. 2/ cl.  
Homilist (The), by D. Thomas, Vol. I, Editor's Series, cr. 8vo. 5/6  
Journal of General Convention, Church of Ireland, 1st Session, 5/  
Lacordaire's (Rev. Père) *Conferences at Notre Dame*, 6/  
Neale's (J. M.) *Victories of the Saints*, 18mo. 2/ cl.  
Paley's *Evidences*, by Flak, new edition, cr. 8vo. 4/6 cl.  
Religions of the World, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
Saunders's (F.) *Evenings with the Sacred Poets*, cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl.

## Law.

Oliver's (W. A.) *Handy Book of the New Law of Bankruptcy*, 4/

## History.

Froude's *History of England*, Cabinet Edit., Vols. 3 & 4, 6/ ea.  
Gronow's *Anecdotes of Celebrities of London and Paris*, 2/ bds.  
Lenormant & Chevalier's *Manual of Ancient History*, Vol. 2, 6/6  
Taylor (Rev. D.), *Life of*, by Dr. W. Underwood, 18mo. 1/  
Taylor (Rev. M. C.), *Memoir of*, by Hellier, 12mo. 3/6 cl.

## Geography.

Ansted's 2,000 *Examina*. Questions in Physical Geography, 2/  
Appleton's *Handbook of American Travel*, cr. 8vo. 8/ cl.  
Atlas du Théâtre de la Guerre, 4to. 3/ swd.  
Black's *Map of the Rhine Frontier*, ed.; General Map of the  
Seat of War, 6d.  
Lewin's (Capt.) *Wild Races of South-Eastern India*, cr. 8vo. 10/6  
Stanford's *Enlarged Map of the Seat of War*, coloured, 2/

## Philology.

Beard's *Latin made Easy*, 9th edit., 12mo. 3/6 cl.  
Bullen's (H. A.) *Lingue Angliques Clavis*, 2nd edit., 12mo. 3/6  
Burns's (Rev. I.) *Praxis Primaria*, Exercises in Writing Latin, 2/  
Valpy's *Greek Delectus*, with New Lexicon by White, 12mo. 2/6  
Virgil for English Readers, by Collins, Ancient Classics, 2/6 cl.

## Science.

Armitage, *Memoranda for Emergencies for Veterinarians*, 3/  
Church's (A. H.) *The Laboratory Guide*, 2nd edit., cr. 8vo. 5/6  
Instructions in *Military Engineering*, Vol. 1, 16/  
Practitioner (The), edited by Anstie, Vol. 4, 8vo. 10/6 cl.  
Tyndall's (Dr.) *Notes of Lectures on Electrical Phenomena*, 1/

## General Literature.

Aldine Poets: Cowper, Vols. 2 and 3, 12mo. 1/6 each, cl.  
Baldwin's (J. L.) *Laws of Short Whist*, 2nd edit., 12mo. 3/6 cl.  
Cecil's (L.) *Fenetre Grange*, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
Chetwynd's (Hon. Mrs.) *Janie, a Highland Love Story*, 3 vols. 21/  
Commercial Gazetteer and Traveller's Companion, 8vo. 1/ swd.  
Farrow's (M.) *After Baxtow's Death*, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl.  
Fitzgerald's (P.) *Beauty Talbot*, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl.  
Folkard's (H. C.) *The Sailing Boat, a Treatise on Boats and*  
*Yachts*, 4th edition, cr. 8vo. 14/  
Foreign Office List, July, 1870, 8vo. 5/ cl.  
Gaskell's (Mrs.) *North and South*, new edition, 12mo. 2/6 cl.  
Graphic (The), Vol. 1, folio, 21/ cl.  
Holt's (R. B.) *The Scale*, 12mo. 6/ cl.  
Lamb's (Chas.) *Complete Works*, Vol. 3, cr. 8vo. 7/ cl.  
London Journal (The), Vol. 51, 4to. 4/6 cl.  
Lonely Tim, by M. F. C., 1/ cl.  
Love Stories of the English Watering Places, new edition, 2/  
Mill's (James) *A Fragment on Macintosh*, 8vo. 9/ cl.  
Neville's (Hugh) *Sir Richard*, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl.  
Once a Week, New Series, Vol. 5, roy. 8vo. 6/ cl.  
Puck, his Vicissitudes, Adventures, &c., by Ouida, cr. 8vo. 5/  
Scott's (H. T.) *Counsel to a Young Wife*, 12mo. 2/6 swd.  
Spicer's (H.) *Brought to Book*, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 21/ cl.  
Steven and Hole's *Complete Reader*, new edit., Books 1 to 4, cl.  
Steven and Hole's *Advanced Lesson Book*, new edit., 12mo. 2/  
Thomson (James), *Works of*, Vol. 2 (Bell's Eng. Poets), 1/3 cl.  
Weale's Series, *Reading Books adapted to the Requirements of*  
*the Revised Code*, Stan. 1 to 6, 12mo. cl.  
Wheels and Woes, or Words of Warning to would-be Velocip-  
edists, 12mo. 1/ swd.  
Wordsworth's *Poetical Words*, Centenary Edit. Vol. 3, 5/ cl.

## M. PRÉVOST-PARADOL.

FRENCH journalism has lost in M. Prévost-Paradol one of its most distinguished ornaments, and the Constitutional party one of its most vigorous champions. Struck down in all the maturity of his power, and at the time when he seemed on the point of rendering to his country important services in a new career of usefulness, the celebrated author of 'Les Anciens Partis' has left behind him a void which it will not be easy to fill, and even his political opponents have hastened to pay a tribute of respect to one who so eminently represented the best features of French literature.

Born at Paris in 1829, M. Lucien Anatole Prévost-Paradol was the son of a charming actress, well known to the *habitués* of the Théâtre Français. After having distinguished himself by a brilliant university career, he obtained the appointment of Professor at the Aix *Faculté des Lettres*, but soon gave up his position for that of a journalist. The regulations of the French university require from all candidates for the doctor's degree

two essays—or *thèses*, as they are called—one in French, the other in Latin. Treated by scholars, these essays are often excellent pieces of composition, and, expanded afterwards at leisure, they become the solid foundation of a young man's literary fame. Thus the late Hippolyte Rigault's 'Thèse sur la querelle des anciens et des modernes,' with the animated discussions to which it gave rise, was quite an event in the annals of the Sorbonne; thus again M. Aubertin's 'Étude sur les rapports entre Sénèque et Saint Paul,' and M. de Coulange's 'La Cité antique,' were originally nothing more than exercises for a university distinction. M. Prévost-Paradol took as his subjects Elizabeth and Henry IV. for the French essay, and Dean Swift for the Latin one. The unpublished correspondence of the French ambassador, Hasault de Maisse, suggested the former of these works, and afforded the young candidate an admirable opportunity for describing and characterizing the relations which existed between the courts of France and of England during the sixteenth century. In the latter, which was originally written in French, but rather carelessly clothed in a Latin dress, *pour répondre aux exigences du doctorat*, M. Prévost-Paradol already betrayed his sympathies for journalism, and showed a keen appreciation of that wit, that irony, that combination of casuistry and good sense, which soon made his own name so illustrious in the columns of the *Journal des Débats* and the *Courrier du Dimanche*. Towards the end of the year 1856 he joined the choice company of writers who, under the leadership of M. Silvestre de Sacy, kept up the old *Débats* in the forward rank of French periodical literature, and the vigour of his articles, the scholarly ability, and the killing satire which they displayed, struck the reading public at once, even when compared with the papers of M. Saint-Marc Girardin, M. Bersot, and M. John Lemoine, and with the *spirituels* feuilletons of M. Jules Janin. Except for a few months, when he joined the staff of the *Presse*, M. Prévost-Paradol continued to the last a faithful collaborator of the *Journal des Débats*, when he wrote chiefly the leading articles, the *premiers-Paris*. But it is almost exclusively in connexion with the *Courrier du Dimanche* that the French biographer of Dean Swift is known amongst us; and the constant annoyances which that unfortunate paper had to suffer from the government of Napoleon the Third down to its final suppression, are the most significant proofs we can give of the extraordinary talent exhibited by M. Prévost-Paradol as a journalist. His attacks against the Empire were not so much open thrusts as hints, indirect lashes, bits of smart irony, and allusions which were caught up à *demi-mot*, and therefore all the more effective. M. Sainte-Beuve remarked of him that he belonged to the school of Chamfort, Rivarol, Benjamin Constant and Paul Louis Courier. He had the true *esprit Français*, and he was accordingly doomed to be the victim of a Government which in those days admitted neither discussion nor even the faintest expression of variance. He could not help it: even when treating of Thucydides or of Herodian, he found the means of saying bitter things about the Emperor and Cesarism in general; like the witty old Henri Estienne, with his 'Apologie pour Hérodoté,' he borrowed from antiquity weapons against present abuses; like Camille Desmoulins, he inflicted upon tyranny wounds doubly galling because it seemed as if the government of the *coup d'état* did not deserve to be treated seriously, but that jokes were quite good enough against it. Unfortunately, this peculiar way of understanding satire—the allusion-system, if we may so call it, excellent as it may be when handled by a man of M. Prévost-Paradol's talent, has its weak points. After the lapse of a few years, allusions cease to be understood, and our journalist's contributions to the *Débats* and the *Courrier du Dimanche* will, like Dean Swift's writings, soon require a key. M. Vaporaux's 'Dictionnaire des Contemporains' gives the correct list of M. Prévost-Paradol's works; his 'Études sur les Moralistes Français' (1864), 'Du rôle

de la Famille dans l'Éducation' (1857), 'La France nouvelle' (1869), and 'Essai de l'Histoire universelle' (1865), are the more remarkable. We have already alluded to the famous brochure entitled 'Les Anciens Partis,' for which the author was condemned to one month's imprisonment and a fine of 40*l.* (1,000 francs). M. Prévost-Paradol succeeded M. Ampère in 1865, as member of the Académie Française.

## OUR AMERICAN LETTER.

Boston, July 17, 1870.

THE death of Mr. Dickens has called forth a remarkable stock of reminiscences and anecdotes of him in this country and from Americans, as well as with you. Very many of these naturally relate to his two visits here, and to the publication of his books in America. A few details have come to me from various trustworthy sources. The novelist made a rule on his arrival in Boston in 1867, to which he rigidly adhered, to decline not only all public receptions, but all proffers of private hospitality, except when coming from old and intimate personal friends. This determination was taken with a conscientious motive. "I have come," said he, "mainly on the business of public reading. I am resolved to make this course of readings the very best which I possibly can, and to spare no pains or time to improve them. To do this, I must shut myself up, work, study, and take no recreation except that which is necessary to health and strength, and which I may take without exertion or formality among intimate friends." Such a determination was undoubtedly disappointing to very many people here,—people who wished merely to grasp him, in American fashion, "by the hand," and people whose wealth, or social, political, or literary position, made it proper for them to show attention to a famous stranger. It is certain that the only houses which he entered in Boston or its vicinity as a guest, were three—those of the poets Longfellow and Lowell, at Cambridge, and that of Mr. James T. Fields, his genial publisher and cherished friend, in town. And his hosts, with a true delicacy, refrained from making his visits difficult by inviting people personally unknown to him to meet him. He came and went as a familiar friend; and must have been refreshed, amid his exhausting labours, by a companionship so congenial and so appreciative of his wishes. For the rest, he lodged at the Parker House, very little disturbed, I am happy to say, by importunities, and was able to secure, for the most part, the seclusion he coveted. It need hardly be said that he kept up here the regular habits, as well as the abstemiousness and care of health, which were so often noted as traits of his character. He was here our bleak, shivering, desolate winter; and yet, so wedded was he to the habit of a long daily walk, that on the coldest and bleakest days he never missed his accustomed jaunt. In his daily walks in this neighbourhood he was almost invariably accompanied by Mr. Fields, himself an excellent pedestrian; and Dickens was wont, at these times, to chat about his novels and the characters in them; and in the course of their walks, he gave Mr. Fields a most entertaining history of himself, from his infancy. Mr. Dickens exhibited a wonderful memory in reference to streets and localities. He frequently exclaimed, in walking about Boston, "This building was not here when I was here last."—"This is a new street since I was in Boston,"—more than a quarter of a century having elapsed between his two visits. Though he made it a rule to refrain from accepting hospitalities, or appearing in public otherwise than as a reader, he manifested a very keen interest in the New World and people amid which he found himself, and which had, according to himself, so remarkably changed and advanced since he saw them first. His remarks to his walking companion showed how minutely he observed; for he would describe the oddities whom he had met with great gusto, imitating voice and manner in his inimitable way, and stopping to laugh heartily at his own delineation. The next number of the *Atlantic Monthly* will have a very interesting article by Mr. Fields, in which some



of his reminiscences of Dickens will be related, called, 'Some Recollections of Charles Dickens.'

With reference to the publications of Dickens's books in America, I am able to gather that the 'Pickwick Papers,' though very popular in England, at first met with a decidedly cold reception among American publishers: we had not yet learnt to relish heartily English humour; and Elia, and Hood, as well as Pickwick, were almost unknown among us. Appleton, Harper, and the other leading publishers quite overlooked it. Finally, an obscure bookseller in New York, one James Tutney, brought out 'Pickwick,' but with no remarkable success, his edition hardly exceeding four thousand. More than two years elapsed before the sale of it became general; and even then it failed to give to Dickens a considerable American fame. In the same way, 'Oliver Twist' was issued by a small New York shop, at fifty cents a copy, and made but indifferent progress at that price. 'Nicholas Nickleby,' however, made the name of Dickens known to the whole country; and 'The Old Curiosity Shop' following, brought out the full flow of popular enthusiasm. It was after the republication of this novel that Dickens made his first visit here; and you know what an ovation that was: he was outrageously bored and todied, and had his revenge for it. It is needless to add that the books which succeeded 'The Old Curiosity Shop' were eagerly snatched at by publishers, and as eagerly devoured by readers, all over the land. I think that a popular vote here on the respective merits of his works would be a nearly equal division between 'David Copperfield' and 'Pickwick.' Messrs. Ticknor & Fields were the only publishers ever authorized in America by Mr. Dickens to re-issue his novels; and they are known to have treated him with liberality in the matter of payment.

The advent of Midsummer has caused rather a lull in literary and publishing circles. Among the more important publications are a comparative grammar of the Anglo-Saxon language, in which its forms are illustrated by those of the Sanscrit, Greek, Latin, Gothic, old Saxon, old Frisian, old Norse, and old High-German, by Professor March, of Lafayette College, issued by Harpers. Anglo-Saxon has latterly been introduced into several of our colleges, and the present work supplies a want generally felt. Harpers have also just published 'Sketches of Creation,' by Professor Alexander Winchell, of the University of Michigan, which professes to give a popular view of some of the higher conclusions of the sciences, in reference to the history of matter and that of life. Dr. Winchell proceeds to give a statement of the intimations of science relative to the primordial condition and the ultimate destiny of the earth, and the solar system. In some departments of science, Dr. Winchell treads closely upon the ground occupied by Pouchet; and his main design, like Pouchet's, is to popularize the later conclusions of science. A series of articles, which attracted considerable attention in Harper's *Bazaar*, on the care of the person, manners, and etiquette, have been collected into a handy-book, which goes over fresh ground on a hackneyed subject. The same firm republishes Mr. Wilkie Collins's 'Man and Wife,' Mr. Hepworth Dixon's 'Free Russia,' and Mr. Macgregor's 'Rob Roy' narratives.

Messrs. Appleton have issued the 1869 volume of their 'Annual Cyclopaedia,' which has a high place with us as our best Annual Register of events. It includes, with the main historical and political events of the year, statistical and economical facts relating to agriculture, education, commerce and literature, and an annual obituary department. This work has a very large sale in America, and probably in England also. It is American history in annual instalments. The average sale of 'Lothair' continues to be about 1,000 copies daily: the sales have nearly reached 60,000 in this country. Miss Thackeray's complete works are published in a thin octavo by Harpers, and her 'Cornhill Stories,' in pamphlet, by Loring, of Boston. Miss Ingelow's new poem will soon appear, published by Roberts Brothers. That firm has paid Miss Alcott 10,000 dollars for

her share of the sales of her two books. Two interesting articles, besides that of Mr. Fields on Dickens, are promised in the *Atlantic* for August; one on 'A Virginian in New England Thirty-Five Years Ago,' by Prof. J. R. Lowell, and one on Hawthorne, by G. S. Hillard. We shall probably have something more elaborate from Mr. Lowell in the autumn. Fields, Osgood & Co. have just published Hawthorne's English Note-Books, and in the autumn will issue two interesting works; one of reminiscences of the old *National Intelligencer* of Washington, of which Gales and Seaton were so long the editors, by Miss Seaton, daughter of the latter; the other, 'The English Governess at the Siamese Court.' Mrs. Stowe is writing a series of 'Oldtown Fireside Stories,' in the *Atlantic*. Miss E. S. Phelps is engaged on another book.

Our college "Commencements" are well-nigh over, and the shower of honorary degrees has fallen on the worthy and unworthy. G. M. T.

#### ITALIAN LITERATURE

AMONGST the works recently published in Italy are—'Duecento Sonetti in Dialetto Romanesco,' by Giuseppe Gioacchino Belli, with preface and notes by Luigi Morandi, G. Barbéra, Florence; and by the same publishers 'Versi e prose,' by Salvatore Caputi, 'Storia dei Concilii Ecumenici,' by Egidio Cecucci, tip. Emiliana, Venice, 'Storia degli usi Nuziali,' by Angelo De Gubernatis, E. Trèves, Milan;—by the same publishers, 'I Codici d'Italia conformi al testo ufficiale,' by Enrico Rosmini, 'La Questione Anglo-Americana dell'Alabama,' by Augusto Pierantoni, 'La Baronessa di Carini,' by S. Salomone Marino, Palermo, 'La Pace dell'Europa Moderna,' by Alessandro Stefano Garelli, 'Il vero nelle Scienze Occulte,' studies by Gabriele Rosa, Fiori, Brescia, 'La Nova Carta di Europa in relazione colle Razze Latine,' by Enrico Amante, Vinciguerra, Torino, 'Del Concetto di persona nel diritto internazionale,' by Luigi Raverà, tip. Fodratti, Turin, 'I Poeti Italiani dei Codici d'Arborea,' by Adolfo Borgognoni, Angeletti, Ravenna, 'Annuario delle Biblioteche Popolari d'Italia,' compiled by Antonio Bruni and Giovanni Benedetti, Cellini, Florence, 'Roma e il Cattolicesimo,' by Romolo Federici, Florence, 'the "Racconti" of Rosina Muzio-Salvo, preceded by an introduction on the life of the authoress, by Luigi Sampolo, Palermo,—a new and complete edition of the works of F. D. Guerrazzi, with illustrations, and preceded by a biography of the author and a review of his works, by Prof. Ferdinando Bosio, Milan,—the fourth edition of Gustavo Strafforello's translation of Smiles's 'Self-Help,' under the title of 'Chi si aiuta Dio l'aiuta,' E. Trèves, Milan,—and by the same translator a version of Smiles's new work 'Storia di Cinque Lavoranti Inventori,' G. Barbéra, Florence,—and a capital translation of G. L. Craik's 'Pursuit of Knowledge under Difficulties,' under the title of 'Costanza vince Ignoranza,' with important additions drawn from Italian History by the translator, Pietro Rotondi, also published by G. Barbéra.

#### THE OFFICIAL RECORD OF THE EXPEDITION TO ABYSSINIA.

I TURNED with considerable interest to the examination of the two large quarto volumes, accompanied by a case of maps, which profess to contain the Official Record of the Expedition to Abyssinia, compiled by order of the Secretary of State for War. I now have to request that you will allow me space to justify my opinion, that the official publication of these volumes is a mere waste of public money; that they contain no information of any value that has not already been presented to Parliament; and that they have been edited with surprising carelessness and want of literary knowledge and ability.

The great bulk of the work is merely a reprint, in a costly form, of the Abyssinian Blue Books already published; and it is swelled by a mass of reports and tabular statements, such as lists of stores, Treasury minutes on the supply of dollars, rates of pay, cash accounts, returns of chemicals

for the photographers, &c. All this has been produced in the most expensive form. It is connected together by a few pages of editorial narrative here and there; but the loose writing and mistakes of the compilers, when they appear in person, are on a par with the uselessness of the compilation.

There are two opening chapters on the general topography of Abyssinia, and on its history, before the contents of the Blue Books begin to be inserted. I shall scarcely be credited when I tell your readers that the official idea of Abyssinian geography is, that the waters of the Mareb are still swallowed up by the Nile, and that the river Takazyé is a main tributary of the Abai! Yet, these astounding notions will actually be found at pages 390 of vol. i. and 19 of vol. ii. The history of the Official Record is in keeping with its geography. Amongst other mistakes of a similar kind, it is asserted that Prince Henry, the navigator, who died eighteen years before Covilham left Portugal for the East, sent that traveller (whose name is officially spelt Covillan) to Abyssinia, and afterwards kept up a correspondence with him! The compilers rarely spell a word the same way for a dozen pages together. Warké, a common name in Abyssinia, is spelt in six different ways, all of which are wrong. In one instance the compilers are consistent throughout, for they persist in the mistake of placing the accent, which they express by a mark unknown to English composition, on the second syllable of Mágdala. The accent in this word, whether it be the scriptural name, or be derived from two Galla words, as Mr. Rassam was told, is indisputably on the first syllable. All the prisoners who were confined in the fortress and all Amharic scholars are unanimous upon this point. In spite of false geography, and history, and careless spelling, one still might expect to find a clear and soldierlike account of the action before Mágdala. But here, again, the reader will be disappointed. A confused and incorrect description of the ground is supplemented by a long extract from a sensational but very ungrammatical letter written by the correspondent of the *Daily News*; and this, it appears, is the Official Record of the chief event during the expedition.

The notices of the scientific results of the expedition are compressed into fifty pages. The geographer is misrepresented by having his observed heights of various stations entirely altered, the figures differing by several hundreds of feet from those given in his published work, and being altogether false. Mr. Blanford, the geologist, has been obliged to publish his results in a very interesting and valuable work, but mainly at his own risk, and is dismissed in a few pages of the Official Record. The antiquary, who was not allowed to visit Axum even for a single day, though Lord Adare and others who accompanied the force were there, has but half a page of the Record allowed for a notice of his proceedings. A whole chapter is, however, devoted to what is called the "Trigonometrical Survey"; and I must trespass a little more on your space in order to give your readers some idea of the contents of this chapter, and of the accompanying maps, now published officially by the War Office.

The chapter consists of the Report by Lieut. Carter, one of the three surveying officers who were sent from India; and we learn from him that the idea of making a trigonometrical survey was given up as soon as he landed, and that nothing of the kind was attempted. The heading of the chapter is, therefore, incorrect and misleading, to use the mildest terms. I know well that Lieut. Carter and his colleagues performed their work in the best way that was open to them, but, as a matter of fact, they only took observations for latitude at three places south of Senafé; while from Ashangi to Mágdala the route was merely laid down by dead reckoning, as sailors call it; not a single position was fixed, and no observation was taken either for latitude or even for compass-variation. Of the two maps, one is a general map of the country to illustrate the Record, and the other is a map of the route. They form a contrast to the beautiful maps that, in these days, are issued by the continen-

tal Governments. In the general map the mountains are so faintly and incorrectly indicated as to give no idea of the configuration of the country; and in the route-map the hill etching is so coarse and black as to render the names almost illegible. There is an astonishing absence of topographical detail in both, and it is deplorable to find that even the map prepared by Col. Cooke before the expedition started, is superior to them in this respect. To give one example, Guala, the residence of the well-known Father Jacobis, and the little isolated hill of Zeban Sifra, which rises above it, are correctly placed on Cooke's map. They do not appear at all on the new route-map, although they are within a mile of the camp at Adigerat; while the name of Zeban Sifra is wrongly given to a distant peak.

The two maps are officially published, and issued in one case, yet they do not agree either in the delineation of the country or in orthography, and neither are consistent with the Record they profess to illustrate. I have counted as many as thirty important discrepancies, and it will be necessary to give a few, in order to place the justice of this serious charge beyond doubt. The streams between Agula and Antalo are made to flow in independent courses to the Gibbeh on one map, while they first unite together on the other. On one the river draining the Antalo region is called Zamra, on the other Aroqua. Howzen, an important place, is stated in the Official Record to be in the Haramat province, and spelt Hauzen. On the general map it is placed in Geralsa; on the route-map we find it as a separate province west of Haramat, and spelt Hausen; and on a third map, showing the distribution of troops, we have Howzen. About the next province, called Tsera, there is wild confusion. The Record tells us that it is entered on crossing the Genfel, which is called Gumfit on one map and Genfel on another, both wrong. On referring to the general map we find the boundary several miles further north, while the route-map gives no such province. Then we have Wojerat on one map and Wodgerat on the other; we find Tselari, Tselare, Tzellare, Tsellari, and Tsellare for the same river; Jedda, Djedda, and Jitta; Karsaba, Kharsaba, and Kharsaber; and so on. The great river Takkazyé is consistently spelt wrong throughout,—a blunder which might have been set right at once by a reference to Dr. Beke's paper or to Isenberg's dictionary. There is a persistent repetition of the well-known error of the old map-makers, in calling the mountains above the Salt desert Senafe,—a mistake which originated in Ludolf having misunderstood an old Jesuit narrative, but which had been exposed and set right long before the expedition commenced.

There may be differences of opinion as to systems of spelling, but there can be no excuse for such carelessness as is exhibited on these maps, and for having no system at all. The above are only a few examples of the most glaring blunders.

The publication of this expensive work looks very like a job, and it is no light matter that such a mass of inconsistencies and mistakes should go forth to the world as the official result of the Abyssinian expedition. It is discreditable to the Department which has issued it, and must be a source of discouragement and regret to all who take an interest in the subject. Works of this nature are rarely published under Government auspices, and when they are, they should at least have the advantage of being edited with ordinary care. ABA BUSBUS.

#### THE HAURAN RUINS.

I HAVE hitherto refrained from interfering in the controversy between Mr. Porter and Mr. Freshfield regarding the age of the "giant cities of Bashan," which has occupied a portion of your space for some weeks past, because I believed the disputed points to be so simple that they only required to be stated that they might settle themselves. Now, however, that the real issues are getting obscured by irrelevant personal details, perhaps you will allow me to try to recall attention, as briefly as I can, to the true state of the case, especially as the question is one of considerable interest to a great many of your readers.

There is something so singular, and at the same time so impressive, about the ruined cities of the Hauran, that it is not at all to be wondered at that their first discoverers were carried away by their enthusiasm, and assigned to them a primeval antiquity. The only building material used being the imperishable basalt, it showed no trace of age in that rainless climate, and if they were 1,000 years old, they might as well be 3,000 or 4,000, or, indeed, of any age. This being so, it was natural to jump to the conclusion that they were really the ancient cities of Bashan, which were the only ones which history mentions as existing in that neighbourhood.

The case, however, was widely different when they had been examined by men of science and carefully measured and drawn by competent architectural draftsmen. This service has been rendered by the Count de Vogüé, and his friend, M. Duthoit; and besides this, these gentlemen, with Mr. Waddington, have collected in these countries nearly 1,200 inscriptions, many of them dated. Of the 150 plates, of which Count de Vogüé's work is to consist, 145 have been for some time in the hands of the public, and the few remaining to be engraved are not of new buildings, but of those already partially illustrated in other parts of the work. As the plates are arranged chronologically, and the real or approximate date of the buildings is engraved on every plate, there can be no doubt as to the conclusion these gentlemen have arrived at; it is simply this: that every building which they found in the Hauran, and all those they illustrate in Northern Syria, were erected during the six centuries which elapsed from the time of Christ till the age of Mahomet. Other illustrations of these cities have been published in works of a less scientific character than this one; but so far as I know, not one of any building they have not examined, nor in any style, which at all invalidates the conclusions they have arrived at.

Under these circumstances several courses appear to be open to Mr. Porter. First, to deny that style in architecture is a test of age, and consequently that the knowledge we have been garnering up during the last fifty years is a delusion, and consequently worthless; and, secondly, that the inscriptions on the walls of the buildings in the Hauran are not integral, but were added afterwards. Such a line of argument would be perfectly legitimate and intelligible, though "it would probably not make many converts. If Mr. Porter does not adopt it, will he point out any building or detail, in any of M. de Vogüé's plates, which he thinks belongs to a different and earlier age than that assigned to it in that work . . . ?" Or better still, will he produce and publish any building which has escaped the notice of the Count, and which differs in style from those his work illustrates, or has any mark or sign about it which would induce us to assign it to another or an earlier age?

By following either of the latter courses Mr. Porter would confer a great benefit on all searchers after truth in this matter; but unless he can do this successfully I am afraid it must be admitted that the facts of the case, in so far as they are at present known, are entirely at variance with his hypothesis. J. FERGUSSON.

#### Literary Gossip.

LITERATURE, Science and Art are already suffering from the disturbed state of Europe. In Paris, the demand for Art-workmanship has almost ceased; and although we commemorated a grant for a French Arctic expedition, the war will tend to limit still further French expenditure on scientific exploration, already much reduced. It also threatens the great Lyons Exhibition, the first stone of the building for which was to have been laid, with much pomp, about this time. The German universities are closing, and, as many of the professors will follow the students, the various branches of research will be inter-

rupted. As we have mentioned in another column, the Dresden Exhibition of Holbein's works is postponed. In Turkey, the reserve having been called out, the strain on the Treasury is so great that much of the proposed expenditure on education must be abandoned.

THE following extract from the *Figaro* of the 23rd of July curiously testifies to the popularity of Mr. Pickwick across the Channel: "A minuit le 3<sup>e</sup> voltigeur et le 1<sup>er</sup> grenadier (de la garde impériale) ont défilé par la rue Lafayette au milieu des cris enthousiastes de la foule. Piquevique (*sic*), le chien des voltigeurs, trotte fièrement à l'arrière-garde, portant ses états de services (écrits sur parchemins) suspendus à son cou." Will Mr. *Punch* tell us if "Toby" has his representative in the French army?

THE anniversary meeting of the Newspaper Press Fund was held on Wednesday. It was reported that the invested fund had been largely increased, and considerable sums awarded in relief; but Lord Houghton, the chairman, stated that the progress in enrolling members was not satisfactory, particularly in the provinces. Lord Houghton paid a tribute to the supporters of the institution, of whom they had been deprived by death during the year: Charles Dickens, Mark Lemon, V.P., Sir C. Wentworth Dilke, Bart., V.P., Mr. David Keane, Q.C., and Mr. George Cozens. Of Charles Dickens, he commemorated the services, as having filled the office of President during one year. Lord Houghton referred to the munificent present they had received from Mr. G. Tomline, M.P., of the plate engraved from his *Murillo*. The amount of the fund has now reached 5,100*l*. A committee was appointed, on the motion of Mr. Herbert Fry and Mr. George Godwin, to inquire into the means of extending the objects of the institution.

AN imperfect manuscript of 'Oliver Twist,' in the autograph of Mr. Dickens, was sold on Saturday last by Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge for 50*l*.; it was bought by Mr. John Forster. 'The Lay of St. Cuthbert,' 'Nell Cook,' and 'Aunt Fanny,' in the autograph of the Rev. R. H. Barham, author of 'The Ingoldsby Legends,' produced at the same sale 10*l*. 10*s*. each.

THE monument over the grave of the poet Gower, in St. Saviour's Church, Southwark, had a narrow escape from destruction on Tuesday last. Lightning struck one of the pinnacles of the tower of the church: a large fragment of stone was, with others, detached, and fell through the roof of the transept to the pavement at the foot of the monument.

LAST week, at Richmond, Surrey, died Mrs. Ritchie, better known as Anna Cora Mowatt. She was the daughter of an American merchant, and was born at Bordeaux about 1810. Inclination and reduced fortune led her to the stage, and after a successful career in the United States, she made her appearance in London in 1848, at the Princess's Theatre, whence she was drawn to the Olympic by Mr. Watts, the engagement terminating with his financial collapse and suicide in 1850. Mrs. Ritchie was a versatile and prolific writer, and some of her novels attained considerable popularity in America.

AMONG the names that appear for the first time in the new edition of the 'Dictionnaire



des Contemporains' is that of Mr. Spurgeon! War, however, is responsible for a large number of the additions. Just as the last edition was full of American generals, the present one is full of Prussian generals; and besides we have Sir J. Whitworth, Herr Krupp, Herr Dreyse and M. Chassepot.

THE New City Library and Museum Committee, presided over by Dr. Saunders, have accepted tenders for the New Building, for 21,350*l.*, to be erected at the end of the Guildhall, abutting upon Basinghall Street. The building is to be commenced immediately, and to be finished within fifteen months.

AN English translation of the 'Letters on Woman,' by Fanny Lewald, which appeared in the *Kölnische Zeitung*, will be issued shortly; French and Russian versions are also in preparation, and an Italian one has appeared in the *Rivista Europea*.

WHEN shall we hear the last of the Upas? There is a solemn account of the deadly tree in *Cassell's Magazine*, as if the public would never learn that not in Java, but in the fertile brain of George Stevens, it sprung into being, and spread over the whole earth.

THE death is announced of Giuseppina Pellico, the sister of Silvio Pellico, whom he mentions in 'Le Mie Prigioni.' Her death took place at Chieri, and she is said to have left a volume of memoirs, which is shortly to be published.

THE *Christian Times* has passed into the hands of new proprietors, and will henceforth be published by Mr. Stevenson, Paternoster Row.

HERE F. BODENSTEDT has written some verses about the war that appear in the *Allgemeine Zeitung*. They evince more patriotism than poetic power; and the first stanza, which runs thus,

Franzosen, Franzosen! den Tag habt in Acht,  
Wo die Krieger aus Deutschland heranziehen zur Schlacht!

Sie stürmen heran, ein gewaltiges Heer,  
Den Hass in der Brust, in der Hand das Gewehr,  
is obviously an echo of the beginning of "Lochiel's Warning."

SIGNOR SALOMONE MARINO, in 'La Storia dei Canti Popolari Siciliani' (Palermo, Giliberti), attempts to trace the historical events which he believes to be commemorated in the popular songs of Sicily. In a recently published edition of the famous Sicilian legend of 'La Baronessa di Carini,' he adduces proof of the actual date of the sad catastrophe on which the legend is founded. These two contributions to the literature of the *canti popolari* of Italy deserve to be studied with attention.

DR. BURKHARD, who, though a Protestant, has lately been appointed one of the Professors of the Academical Gymnasium at Vienna, has nearly finished his critical edition of Sakuntalā.

AN interesting memoir of the traveller Belzoni was read by Prof. G. M. Dalla Vedova at the literary festival, held this year at the Liceo Davila of Padua.

A LITTLE newspaper, named *Il Fanfulla*, has recently made its appearance in Florence, where it has become at once popular. It imitates the Parisian *Figaro*, and its well-written articles in a light style and its amusing gossip have succeeded in obtaining for it a surprisingly large circulation.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—Prof. Pepper's New Lecture, showing how the marvellous GHOST EFFECTS are produced.—New Musical Entertainment, by George Buckland, 'The Wicked Uncle; or, Hush-bye-Babes in the Wood.'—'Sand and the Suez Canal.'—American Organ daily.—The whole for One Shilling.

## SCIENCE

*Observations on the Geology and Zoology of Abyssinia, made during the Progress of the British Expedition to that Country in 1867-68.* By W. T. Blanford. (Macmillan & Co.)

WHEN the expedition of Abyssinia was determined on, Mr. W. T. Blanford, who had been for many years connected with the Geological Survey of India, as the Deputy Superintendent, applied to the Government of India to be allowed to accompany it as geologist. The application of a man so well qualified, both as a geologist and naturalist, and so thoroughly trained in the arduous field of the great Indian Survey, was immediately granted. In December, 1867, Mr. Blanford started from Bombay for Abyssinia, and on the 30th of August, 1868, he left that country and returned to India, having spent eight months in his Geological and Zoological survey of one of the most interesting regions of the earth's surface. The result of this survey cannot be better told than in the words of the author of the "Observations" before us:—

"Altogether, I have never spent eight months more pleasantly. The country was most interesting, the climate during the greater part of the time perfect, and the fauna and geology had all the attractions of novelty. The time was quite insufficient for a thorough examination of the country traversed; but still I had reason to congratulate myself at having been able to accomplish what I had. The scientific results of my journey may be thus briefly summed up. I had, I believe, succeeded in determining the true succession of the principal rock systems of Abyssinia, and of defining their characters with much greater exactness than had previously been done, besides confirming, upon a considerable amount of additional fossil evidence, the opinions of Messrs. Ferret and Galinier as to the age of the only series which has yielded organic remains. I had collected about 1,700 specimens of vertebrata, representing 350 species; besides a considerable number, about 3,500 specimens, of mollusca and articulata, representing about 500 species."

This result is, in the highest degree satisfactory, and it shows the zeal with which Mr. Blanford performed the task he had undertaken. He acknowledges the hearty assistance which he received from the officers of the army, who appear to have taken a genuine interest in the scientific researches, and to have aided in every way in carrying out the objects of Mr. Blanford's mission to Abyssinia.

It is to be regretted that so skilled an observer was not allowed to remain in the country for a longer period, but the Commander-in-Chief, as we know, having fulfilled the task he had undertaken, resolved that no one under his command should remain in this strange and treacherous country a day beyond the time which was actually necessary for the return of the army to the sea. If a wider exploration could have been carried out, it would have been of the utmost value to science. It was especially desirable that additional knowledge should have been obtained of those parts of the country to the southwards, which are but little known—or quite unknown—to Europeans. Nevertheless it is a satisfaction that this campaign was not allowed,

as so many others have been, to be entirely useless to science.

This book is divided into three parts. The Personal Narrative, which is of considerable interest, occupying the first, Geology the second, and Zoology the third. The last two divisions will be highly valued by the cultivators of those divisions of science. The care with which the observations have been made, and the simple truthfulness with which they have been recorded, will be certain to secure for them a place amongst the most valuable contributions to our knowledge. The personal narrative, though brief, is full of interest. The following quotation is a good example of the style of the author:—

"We had found the march from Takonda to Halai so long and tedious that our mules had not arrived till nearly nightfall, owing, of course, in great measure, to the frequent halts necessary for the purpose of readjusting loads. On our return journey we halted half-way, in a lovely valley, with fine sandstone cliffs at the sides, a running stream of beautifully clear cold water, a broad expanse of turf in places, and in others, along the edge of the stream, some of the finest juniper trees I saw in Abyssinia. Both here and close to Halai, these trees grew with a luxuriance unusual elsewhere. Some of them, near our camp, served as the roosting-place for a great flock of guinea-fowls. As soon as it was quite dark, a couple of hyenas came to drink at the stream, close by our tent. The night before, at Halai, one of these brutes had seized a goat which was tied up, and broken his jaw, and, after being driven off, had returned and severely wounded a pony, tearing open his thigh. The boldness of the Abyssinian hyenas is remarkable. They appear to think nothing of tearing, or attempting to tear, pieces of flesh from the sides of living animals as large as a mule or a pony. On this occasion, however, it being bright moonlight, I went after one fellow, and, by good luck, put a bullet through his neck, dropping him on the spot. It is always more by accident than anything else that one succeeds in killing an animal by moonlight. No plan I have ever tried—and I have tried many—really enables a sportsman to see along the barrels of his gun, except in the unusual circumstance of the moon being in such a position as to be reflected from the rib between the barrels. This once happened to me in India. I went after a bear, who came close to my tent at night, and catching, by chance, the moonlight on my barrels, I shot him through the heart with as much certainty as in daylight."

This book, with its valuable Geological Map and well executed illustrations, we commend to general as well as scientific readers.

## TREVITHICK.

ALTHOUGH the Institution of Civil Engineers has for above twenty years offered a premium for a memoir of Richard Trevithick, the inventor of the locomotive and the high-pressure engine, it has not yet been claimed. The correspondence of Trevithick with Davis Gilbert, the President of the Royal Society, remained for many years in the hands of Mr. Ennor, who had undertaken the life of the great Cornishman; but the design was postponed till he can no longer carry it out. He has at length transferred the papers to Mr. Francis Trevithick, who is seriously engaged in the illustration of his father's works, and who has also received the papers of Mr. Hyde Clarke, the author of the first biography of Trevithick. The materials are now very copious, and as they also refer to Trevithick, the grandfather, they cover the history of mechanical engineering from the time of the introduction of Watt's engine into Cornwall down to the death of Richard Trevithick, including his locomotive labours in South Wales and Newcastle, as well as his South American undertakings. These latter embraced a Canal

Survey of the Central American Isthmuses, again a subject of interest. There is also much new matter as to the Thames Tunnel, also a topic of the present day. The letters of Trevithick were in many cases accompanied by pen and ink diagrams and sketches.

It happens, likewise, that while Mr. Francis Trevithick will thus illustrate the earliest history of the locomotive, Mr. John Braithwaite, a survivor of the famous Liverpool and Manchester competition, has nearly prepared for the press his memoir of that later period. The result of these two works will be to contribute notable materials for engineering history; but likewise of engineering controversy.

#### SILK AND SUNFLOWERS IN MAURITIUS.

We gather from the last annual report of the Royal Society of Arts and Sciences of Mauritius, that they had received a communication from the "Silk Supply Association," asking whether silk could be grown in the island, and laying down as a principle, that wherever the mulberry-tree will grow, there silk can be produced. The Society referred the question to a committee, who report unanimously that, "not only can the mulberry be cultivated and the silkworm reared in Mauritius, but that an establishment founded on certain principles (which they indicate) would implant the industry of the silk-grower on a firm basis in the island." The committee feel so confident of success, that they offer to undertake the management of the establishment; and we notice that a specimen of silk grown in Mauritius, and reeled more than twenty years ago, was valued at thirty shillings a pound in the London market last January.

Another plant, the sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*) is to be cultivated, and seeds have been distributed among persons willing to undertake the task. It is popularly believed that plantations of sunflowers tend to improve local climates, by neutralizing the effect of marsh air, and checking the liability to intermittent fever; and in some parts of Holland and the South of France the growth of sunflowers has been encouraged as a means of sanification. The same motive has led to the experiment now making in Mauritius, where some of the planters remark, that, apart from all other considerations, the seeds of the sunflower yield a valuable oil, and are much relished by poultry.

A climbing plant known to botanists as the *Telfairia* (or *Joliffia*) *Africana*, was formerly abundant in Mauritius, but has for some as yet unexplained reason, completely disappeared from the island. The plant being useful as well as ornamental, growing to a great height and bearing seeds which yield a rich sweet oil, is to be reintroduced; and at the request of the Governor, Sir Henry Barkly, a supply of seeds has been forwarded from Zanzibar by Dr. Kirk.

#### SOCIETIES.

**SYRO-EGYPTIAN.**—July 19.—Messrs. Bonomi and Simpson attended to exhibit and explain a large collection of water-colour and pencil drawings, mostly by the late Robert Hay, Esq., and now the property of his son, R. J. Hay, Esq. The sketches were solely of Egyptian views and antiquities, the most interesting of which are as follows:—A series of coloured views in Philæ and Koum Ombos, taken about 1833, the more valuable as the latter temple, having fallen down, is now almost completely buried in the Nile alluvium.—A series of elaborately finished drawings of the Palace Temple of Medinet Habou, by the late C. Laver.—The original measured plans, sections and details of the Pyramids of Gizel, by C. Catherwood (to whom and Bonomi we owe the first accurate map of the Haram es Shereef): these were accompanied by notes and details of the now famous Sarcophagus, in the King's Chamber.—A panoramic view of Thebes, and a folio of sketches, near Karnak, in pencil, by F. Arundale. A view of the singular purple lake near Thebes, so called from an unex-

plained phenomenon, namely, that its waters at a certain period annually assume a purplish tint,—and lastly, a collection of miscellaneous hieroglyphic inscriptions and mural paintings, mostly from the Tombs at Gourna. Many of these, apart from their artistic merit, deserve notice as illustrations of the marvellous accuracy obtainable by the use of a now almost forgotten instrument, the Camera Lucida, by means of which, ere the days of photography, the works of Canaletti, Britton, Roberts, and Hay, were produced.—At the same meeting were exhibited, by Mr. T. Christy, seven volumes of photographs from the East, taken in 1869, by M. Félix Bonfils, representing the condition of most of the buildings comprised in the Hay drawings, and illustrating in many cases the wanton vandalism of the late Mahomet Ali, who caused many of the then almost perfect temples to be destroyed for the sake of their materials, with which distilleries, cotton-factories, and warehouses were erected between the years 1818—40, until the havoc was arrested by a vigorous "Appeal to the Antiquaries of Europe," by the late Mr. Gliddon, U.S. Consul at Cairo, to whose energy and the united action of the savants of France and England the world is indebted for the present excellent condition of the most noted historical antiquities of Egypt.

#### Science Gossip.

MR. C. H. E. CARMICHAEL, M. A., Oxford, of the British Museum, will represent the Anthropological Society of London, at the International Congress of Archaeology, to be held in Bologna next October.

M. DUMAS' notice of Théophile Pelouze has been published. Pelouze was born in Normandy, in 1807, and the only events of his life were his scientific discoveries. When twenty-four, he married a lady of not quite sixteen. She died shortly before himself, and the history of their happy married life of forty years forms a beautiful background to the picture of his scientific occupations. He gave much time to agricultural chemistry, and to the beet-root sugar manufacture, in practice and in theory.

THE Académie des Sciences offers, this year, six mathematical prizes, each worth 3,000 francs. Two botanical prizes, each of 3,000 francs, are offered. Another of 3,000 francs is offered for the best essay on the geographical distribution of plants and animals. 'On the Use of Electricity in Medicine' is a subject for which 5,000 francs are offered. Besides these large ones, many prizes of less value stand open to competition.

Two recently published French books deserve translation for familiar use in this country. 'Le Docteur au Village' is the title of both, and they are written by Madame Hippolyte Meunier, the daughter of a French physician. One of the volumes treats of hygiene, the other of botany. Both are written in a dialogue form, and their style is admirably lucid.

SOME new minerals, composed of oxides of lead and antimony in various proportions, have been discovered. M. des Cloizeaux is engaged on the study of their crystallography.

PROF. FAVRE, of Marseilles, has made some experiments with compounds of hydrogen and palladium. His results point to the conclusion that hydrogen should be classed with the metallic elements.

M. LUCAS, a French civil engineer, proposes a plan for employing electric sparks as signals at night.

M. QUETELET read a long paper at the meeting of the Belgian Academy 'On Aurora Borealis,' the result of a series of observations.

M. SOUREL, whose book on the sea was, a short time ago, noticed in the *Athenæum*, is engaged on a series of solar photographs.

M. BECQUEREL has made a long series of observations on electro-capillary action. He and his son have also given a series of temperature tables,

from observations made at the Jardin des Plantes, from 1864 to 1870.

THE "Réunion extraordinaire" of the French Geological Society for 1870 will open at Nice on the 16th of October.

W. F. R. SURINGAR'S work on *Alga Japonica* has been issued by the Holland Society of Sciences, at Haarlem, and contains twenty quarto plates.

We learn with great regret that the eminent oculist, Dr. Von Gräfe, of Berlin, has died after a long illness at the early age of forty-two.

THE third volume of the 'Atti della R. Accademia delle Scienze Fisiche e Matematiche' contains Prof. G. Nicolucci's interesting researches on the Anthropology of Etruria, which are attracting much attention.

SIGNOR EDOARDO DE BETTU has written a good account of the different molluscs of the province of Verona, in his recent work 'I Molluschi terrestri e fluviali della provincia di Verona.'

In consequence of the price of copper advancing on account of the war, the population of India will have to pay more for their idols. The late high price of cotton and reduced price of copper had enabled them to buy up a large supply. This is one of the few departments of industry in which iron cannot yet compete with copper. Fat and petroleum have, however, in some countries contended with candles and oil lamps for devotional use in churches and before images of saints. The copper trade is greatly dependent on the maintenance of ancient usages, and has suffered much by copper domestic vessels being superseded by iron and tin ware. The successful introduction of the latter likewise destroys local ornamental work.

#### FINE ARTS.

THIS DAY, the INSTITUTE of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS will CLOSE their THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION.—Gallery, 38, Pall Mall West. Open Daily from Nine till Dusk.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d. JAMES FAHEY, Sec.

GUSTAVE DORÉ.—DORÉ GALLERY, 35, New Bond Street.—EXHIBITION of PICTURES, including 'Christian Martyrs,' 'Monastery,' 'Triumph of Christianity,' 'Francesca de Rimini,' at the New Gallery.—OPEN from Ten till Six.—Admission, 1s.

*Specimens of the Drawings of Ten Masters from the Royal Collection at Windsor Castle, with a Descriptive Text.* By B. E. Woodward, Librarian to the Queen, &c. (Macmillan & Co.)

In producing this book, the author desired to familiarize general students and the popular mind with some of the rarer treasures of Art,—treasures which, in their lack of superficial attractiveness, are liable to be overlooked, when to be overlooked is to be neglected. Drawings by great masters were not made to show: it requires something of an education before one can fairly appreciate them, and the education which is most serviceable in this respect is a technical one. Artists are the best judges of artistic experiments, such as the drawings in the Royal collection. They are reproduced here and commended by the author in a way which, if it is quite candid, is not easily to be comprehended. The text is, as Mr. Woodward modestly stated, but a compilation, and "inserted solely to prevent the need of reference to other works." We need, therefore, say nothing more of this than that it is handy. The more serious purpose, and of course inestimably more valuable part, of the work is that which comprises transcripts from the drawings. To this we address ourselves.

We regret not to be able to speak favourably of the part of the book in question. The compiler, or author, showed, in more ways than one, great lack of judgment in reproducing specimens of which a large proportion are not



interesting for their own sakes, and, what is more to be regretted, he seems to have persisted in the crowning error of choosing from the noble and wealthy collection at Windsor specimens which, whether desirable to be brought to popular service or not, have suffered sorely by being reduced,—not to meet the exigencies which were imposed by the size of the volume, but to serve what is little short of a monomania with the preparers of books of this order, their irrepressible desire to have broad margins to their illustrations. Had Mr. Woodward's knowledge of art been great, or had his taste been of an original order, he would have contrived, for example, to give us Da Vinci's 'Leda'—a very bad reproduction, by the way,—at its true size, 9in. by 6½ inches, on a page which is 11½ inches by 8½ inches, instead of reducing the copy to 6½ inches by 5 inches. This is an example of studies of detail, some of which are certainly of questionable quality, and comprises heads only; but the want of tact and taste to which we allude is obvious, when the case of reducing the lovely study of Raphael's 'Poesy' from 14 inches high to 8 inches, when 11 inches were attainable in this very volume, and 14 inches might have been had if Mr. Woodward had known what he was about. The blunder reaches absurdity when one looks at M. Angelo's allegory 'The Shooters at the Mark,' a masterly series of nude figures in vigorous action; here, where much exquisite detail is shown, the original 12½ inches are cut down to barely 8 inches.

Many of the examples here are unfortunately chosen, e.g. Raphael's 'Division of the Land,' 'The Miraculous Draught of Fishes' might have given place to a less trite illustration; it is a beautiful study, but of little interest in a popular sense compared with the completed design. 'The Academical Study' is likely to be caviare to the million, and is not of great importance to anybody. Who cares for Romano's 'Jupiter and Pluto'? The hands of 'Mona Lisa' are not such as one would desire for a book of this kind. We might note four or five more in this class of ill-judged illustrations. Of course other specimens are more fortunate, e.g. Holbein's 'Daughter of Sir T. More,' and, defective only in the preposterous reduction of its size, his 'Solomon and the Queen of Sheba,' and a study by Da Vinci, one of the ugly heads. Our conclusion however, on the whole, is, that this book is very far below its pretences, and ill qualified to serve the compiler's purposes.

#### THE ROYAL ARCHEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE AT LEICESTER.

Leicester, July 27, 1870.

THE long drought and great heat of the present summer have had less effect upon the rich land about Leicester than upon many other parts of the country. Such certainly was the impression with which the visitors to the annual gathering of the Institute entered Leicester. And the pleasant county town to which we drew some attention last week certainly looked its best as the time approached for the inaugural meeting. A thunder-storm of no great violence on the previous afternoon—certainly much milder than in many other parts of the country—had freshened and sweetened the air, so that the sultriness which had long prevailed was completely changed to a soft, balmy atmosphere. The storm which raged in the metropolis on that very morning did not come near Leicester.

At the appointed hour (2 P.M.) the picturesque

Guildhall was tolerably filled to give a welcome to the Institute. This Hall formerly belonged to the Guild of Corpus Christi, and was purchased by the corporation in 1563. The earlier portion of the Hall is, however, much older than that date, and on the brown old roof-timbers the hooks remain to which curtains and parts of the scanty scenery were hung when it was used by the itinerant companies of players, among whom tradition places William Shakspeare. The high pitch and solid forms of the timbers in the roof were not inaptly noticed by a learned Judge in Sessions some few years ago: when complaining of the darkness (the windows are small and comparatively modern) he said it was like "the inside of a boat turned keel upwards."

In this Hall Lord Talbot de Malahide, the President of the Meeting, who was accompanied by Sir T. E. Winington, Bart., Archdeacon Trollope, Archdeacon Stanton, Mr. G. T. Clark and the officials of the Institute, was received by the Mayor and Corporation of Leicester. An address, complimenting the Institute, and speaking in quite modest terms of the claims of Leicester to the attentions of so learned a body, was read by the Town Clerk, and was the text for several clever speeches and answers.

Lord Talbot, in the course of his remarks, alluded to the clause in the Address of the Corporation, which spoke of the difficulties which a thriving and flourishing town like Leicester had to contend with in order to take any care of antiquities. He fully agreed with and admitted the force of that clause. But at the same time he did not think that if persons really felt it to be of importance to preserve those antiquities, the two objects could not be reconciled. Referring to the ancient corporations of the country, he said they had reason to be proud of the careers they had had, and the parts they had performed during many centuries of English history. The origin of some of those corporations was lost among the mist of by-gone ages. In some of them there were traces of the Roman occupants of our land, and he thought the Romans had left a tradition of corporate bodies which was afterwards adopted and followed, and amplified in subsequent ages; and the corporations of this country had always banded themselves together with those who were in favour of moderate reforms and improvements in the country. There was no more noble passage in the annals of many of those corporations, than that when Simon de Montfort, the noble Earl of Leicester, with the aid of other barons, backed by the burgesses of Leicester and other rising towns, began his career, and succeeded ultimately in laying the foundations of the British House of Commons.

Mr. G. T. Clark spoke of the high literary distinction achieved by several ancestors of well-known Leicestershire families, of which they were more proud than of their ancestry and wealth. Such men would be cordial, he felt sure, in welcoming those who dealt exclusively with the past. It was admitted that an earnest lover of the antique might be even a Whig in politics, and that a cold critic of antiquity might yet be a strong Tory. So the Institute laid claim to being a most peaceable body, though it dealt with ancient arms and the apparatus of war, with castles and encampments. And at home as they were with churches and cathedrals and all the apparatus of theology, yet they never indulged in polemic or theological controversy.

Archdeacon Fearon, in welcoming the Institute on behalf of the Clergy and the local Society, said the study of Archaeology had a humanizing and soothing effect. Some sciences carried them so very far back into antiquity that it was quite overwhelming to the mind to attempt to follow them, and it was quite a relief to get within archaeological limits.

Archdeacon Trollope said his difficulties in acknowledging the welcome accorded to the Institute would have been greater but for his experience of the kind courtesy of the people of Leicester.

After these words of gratulation, and the an-

nouncement of the intended perambulation of the town, Mr. Parker drew attention to some of the features of interest in the Guildhall. But he had not worked up the documentary history of the building, and, looking only to some leading architectural points, spoke of it as being much later in date than the town records show it to have been.

Thence, after a careful look into the "restored" Church of St. Martin's, the party passed to the quaint structure almost next door to the Guildhall, founded by the wealthy merchant of the Staple, William de Wyggeston. The building is empty, and threatened with destruction. The trustees of the wealthy foundation have built the establishment anew, in the green fields and fresh air of the country, outside Leicester, and no purpose has yet occurred to the good folk of Leicester as one to which the original structure can be put. It has the old fittings and carvings of the sixteenth century; and certainly the former seem ill adapted to modern wants.

St. Nicholas Church was the next object of interest. It is built chiefly of ruins of the Roman wall which were close at hand, several of the arches being turned in brick. Portions of a Norman clerestory remain, and there are of course parts of a later date. Close by is the far-famed Jewry Wall, a grand mass of Roman masonry. Here, of course, a long pause was made. Mr. Parker, with all the prestige of his arduous researches into Roman antiquities in the Imperial city itself, was listened to with great attention, and other speakers followed him. The conclusion arrived at seemed to be the opinion, tolerably unanimous for antiquaries, that it was the remains of the western gate of the Roman city. Other Roman remains in the town were here incidentally adverted to, and, with a visit to the Churches of All Saints and St. Margaret's, the partial perambulation of the town was brought to a close.

In the evening the Ven. Archdeacon Trollope presided over the section of Architecture in the Masonic Hall.

The Rev. J. G. Joyce read a memoir on the cartoons of the stained glass of Fairford Church, exhibited by him in the temporary museum of the Institute. He had been commissioned by the Government to execute these cartoons for the use of the South Kensington Museum, and before they were consigned to that establishment, he thought the opportunity should not be lost of exhibiting them in the museum of the Institute, and of drawing attention to their more remarkable characteristics, and to their very great excellencies as works of art. After referring to the long-told legend of the capture of the glass at sea by the armed ship of the wealthy clothier, John Tame—which he dismissed as almost entirely a fable—he proceeded to describe in detail the windows and the Church in which they were placed. There were twenty-eight subjects, and the sizes of some of the sheets of glass were surprisingly large. Of course they had suffered some injury; several parts were wanting to the figures, while other pieces were "starred" and liable to fall out of their crazy fastenings. It was said that the glass had been for some time buried, to preserve it during troublous times, and afterwards improperly replaced. Its beauty and grandeur had long been the subject of attention; it had been brought to the notice of Charles I. by Vandyck himself, who admired the beauty and delicacy of the figures. This glass had also attained great fame on the Continent, where it was well known. As to the subjects of the paintings and their execution, the lecturer thought there could not be a greater mistake than for both the design and execution to be attributed to one and the same person. Every one of the subjects showed an Art tradition, executed in a conventional manner. Several other points in their treatment were touched upon, and noticed as being impressed with a mediæval character, contrasting very much with their treatment in pictures of the period. As to the claim of Albert Dürer to their design and execution, he thought there was no ground

whatever for it. On four points he thought the theory quite untenable. Dürer's style differed entirely from that of the artist of the Fairford glass in the drawing of the horses (in which Dürer was excellent), the *nimbi*, the hands and feet, and the architecture. The Fairford glass showed great dignity of form and exquisite colouring, and there was a large proportion of white glass, suited to the frequent "cloud light" of our climate; and he considered it highly desirable that the cartoons should be placed where they would be at the service of all interested in church windows.

Mr. Thompson then read a 'Memoir on the Jews of Leicester and the Jewry Wall.' As its name implies, this structure was situated in the quarter of the town formerly inhabited by the Israelites. Of the use of this name, for a similar reason, in several other localities, the lecturer gave several instances. In the earlier half of the thirteenth century, a tide of persecution appears to have set in against the Jews. The treatment of the Israelites in Leicester is indicated in a charter of Simon of Montfort, of which the lecturer gave a translation. That charter said, "Let it be universally known that I, for the health of my soul and the souls of my ancestors and successors, have granted and confirmed to my burgesses of Leicester and their heirs, that no Jew or Jewess, in my time or in the time of my heirs to the end of the world, shall inhabit, remain or obtain residence within the liberty of the town of Leicester." Shortly after this charter was executed, the Jews were driven out of Leicester. In this crisis they found a protectress in a near relative of the pitiless Earl who had been their persecutor, Amicia, sister of the last Norman Earl of Leicester, Robert Fitz Parnel, and widow of Saer de Quincey. It was she, in fact, who provided an asylum on her estates for the banished Jews of Leicester. The lecturer then drew attention to a letter of the celebrated Bishop of Lincoln, Grosstete, written while Archdeacon of Leicester to the lady who had thrown her shield over the banished Israelites. In return for some acts of personal kindness, the Churchman tenders to her his advice to be very careful how she nourishes such unbelievers as those who gloried in the crucifixion of Our Saviour, and maintains that they ought to be compelled laboriously to cultivate the soil, but certainly should be allowed to live, as "witnesses of the Christian faith in opposition to the Pagans."

To-day (Wednesday) Archdeacon Trollope gave an Introductory Address in the section of Antiquities. It was not of great length, and consisted chiefly of contrasts between the present mode of pursuing the study of antiquities and that in vogue at the beginning of the present century, and gave several examples of the corrected opinions of antiquaries produced by a more careful and precise study of the science.

The Rev. J. G. Joyce then discoursed upon 'Roman Leicester.' He had for many years been engaged in the investigation of one of the most remarkable monuments of the Roman period in this country—the buried city of Silchester, in Hampshire, and it had been thought that, with the experience he had obtained in that work, he might be able to work with some effect upon the buried remains of *Rata*. He had joined in the discussion upon the Jewry Wall on the previous day, and he gave several additional reasons why that structure could be no other, in his opinion, than the western gate of the Roman city. His next point was to search for the site of the ancient "Forum." Luckily, the Leicester antiquaries of the last thirty years had carefully mapped out all the spots where Roman remains had been found, and he was able to show the sites of portions of pillars which, doubtless, supported the Basilica of the Market-place. He then referred to the numerous pavements of tesserae, which have been found in great numbers in Leicester, and discussed at some length the evidences of the various periods of construction to which the different buildings might be assigned, and their general character and conditions. He was followed by Mr. Thompson, who dwelt particularly upon

the supply of water and the means of drainage, and the "Miliarium" found in Leicester.

Mr. Burt then read a memoir entitled 'Contributions to the History of the Abbey of Leicester.' He had found an important document bearing upon that history in the Public Record Office, and had hoped to have put it into the hands of some one engaged upon the subject who might be able to apply it to the existing remains of the Abbey. As he had not found any one so engaged, he had put together a few words of introduction, and would leave the documents the task of telling their own story. The first was a survey of the "Situation," as it was called, or the site of the Monastery of Leicester, made just after the surrender of the Monastery to Henry the Eighth, and while all the buildings were in very good condition. The next document was a letter of John Bouchier, the last Abbot, to Thomas Cromwell, full of curious personal details relating to the affairs of the house. Both these documents will be welcome to the antiquaries of Leicester, whose researches among the ruins of the venerable Abbey have not been very successful.

The exigencies of time cuts short any further record of the meeting for the present. The first excursion takes place to-morrow. We may remark that the attendance seems scarcely so large as at Bury St. Edmunds last year.

\*.\* We shall give a detailed account of the further proceedings of the Institute in our next number.

#### THE PRESERVATION OF ANTIQUITIES.

WHILE our respected Lord Chancellor is talking about the preservation of antiquarian objects, a most interesting little crypt of undoubted antiquity has just been ruthlessly destroyed in the City. It has been open for some months, but I saw it about six weeks ago; it stood facing Aldgate, just at the point where the two thoroughfares of Leadenhall and Fenchurch Streets unite. I found the remains of four or five intersections of a groined roof, springing from solid pillars, about seven feet high, and deeply imbedded in the ground; at the east end the roof had been tapped to admit the brick-work that supports our old friend Sir Aldgate Pump, just overhead. The lower portion of the groinings was filled in with solid cubes of chalk, cut in varying sizes to suit the gradual rise and expansion of the arches; but the upper portions consisted of brick-work similar to the shaft of the pump. The workmen had found traces of colour, which perished directly, but served to show that the whole surface had once been painted in a thin coating of distemper. A reference to old maps will show that the pump has replaced an old cross or water-conduit. The crypt must have belonged to St. Michael's Church, which was non-existent in Stow's days, the parish of St. Michael being united to Queen Matilda's Priory of the Holy Trinity. The street is now widened, and as this crypt was insecure the roof has been removed, the interior filled with rubbish, and the roadway made good overhead.

A. HALL.

#### INDIA IN THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

It is unfortunate that India is not better represented at the Workmen's International Exhibition. Bombay alone contributes, and what it sends to it ought not to have been sent at all. Heretofore the Indian collections for International Exhibitions in Europe have been made through committees of the head civil and military officers and leading natives of each collectorate, in correspondence with central committees at the three Presidency towns. But in the present instance, the whole work of collection and selection in Bombay was thrown upon a single native gentleman, who happened to be spending his holidays at Mahabaleshwar. He certainly got through the work in the most energetic hurry. He received his orders at Mahabaleshwar on the 7th of May, "and reached Poona on the evening of the 8th. On the morning of the 9th I succeeded in procur-

ing a number of objects of art from Khan Bahadur Padumjee Pestoujee, which he had especially prepared for an exhibition." Such is his "report," dated Mahabaleshwar, May 21st, throughout. Everything sent to the Exhibition was borrowed of wealthy native gentlemen, or bought of shopkeepers in Poona, Bombay, and Ahmedabad; nothing was obtained directly of the workman who made it, and throughout all the Indian collection in the Agricultural Hall there is nowhere to be seen a single working man's name. This is a great drawback from its interest and value.

This, of course, arises from the usual plan for making these collections in India not having been now followed in Bombay. There would then have been a more general and a better selection of articles, and pertinent to the great object of the Exhibition at Islington. They would also have been more quickly collected, and without hurry. Now, 6,000 rupees have been simply spent in vain. It would have been far more profitable to have made up a thoroughly representative collection from the India Museum for the Exhibition,—and, in fact, the Museum, it is very evident, has been drawn upon to set off the Bombay collection. But all this sort of thing is just what is not wanted for a Workman's Exhibition, and should not be done. The gentleman who, single-handed, made up the collection at so short a notice, is a highly distinguished native Oriental scholar, and the articles sent by Dr. Bhan Daji, in which he was personally interested, have a real value. The imitation jewellery, also, is exceedingly interesting. And this only shows, now, that the value of Dr. Bhan Daji's services as the secretary and a member of a committee, would have been unqualified, and even enhanced, by those of other specialists. B.

#### Fine-Art Gossip.

MR. AYRTON stated, in the House of Commons on Tuesday last, that the Committee of artists whom, as we announced last week, he had consulted with regard to the decoration of the Parliament Houses, included Messrs. E. M. Ward, G. F. Watts, Armitage, Poynter, Horsley and Herbert. We are bound to applaud the course taken by the First Commissioner in this matter. A Committee of artists may be supposed to understand their own business far better than any body which, as hitherto in this case, consists of laymen and amateurs.

A RETURN (374) to an Order of the House of Commons has just been published, comprising a copy of a letter to the First Commissioner of Public Works, June 22 last, respecting Mr. Barry's plans for the Refreshment Rooms at Westminster, and the Commissioner's reply. In the former, Mr. Barry alleges that he, as architect to the Houses, furnished a plan for this work, which was approved by a Committee of both Houses, "before the accession to office of the present First Commissioner," and was forwarded to the Office of Works in July, 1869. This plan was approved at a later date. Mr. Barry avers that another plan for the same work, recently published as the production of Capt. Galton (No. 257 of the present session), and prepared by direction of the present First Commissioner, appears to be founded on his (Mr. Barry's) plan, but with certain differences, which, according to him, are anything but improvements: of these differences one is named which, if fairly described, shows how important it is that the matter should be sifted to the bottom; this is, that the proposed serving-room of Capt. Galton's devising is placed in one of the main corridors, and is "unprovided with any external light or air" (!); also, that the kitchen is inferior to that proposed by Mr. Barry; that "the public entrance to the new Conference or Committee Room is by an ascent of five steps, succeeded immediately by a descent of five more"; that the architecture of the Waiting-Hall is interfered with to a greater extent than in Mr. Barry's opinion is justifiable; and that the light of the ground-floor windows on the east side of the Peers' Inner Court is affected by columns placed in front



of them to carry a projection above of eleven feet in width. The official reply to Mr. Barry's letter is, unfortunately, characteristic of the present temper and style of the Office of Works; it consists of an acknowledgment, and states that "without admitting the accuracy of your (Mr. Barry's) statements, the First Commissioner declines to enter into any discussion with you respecting the proceedings of this Office." Does Mr. Ayrton fancy he can thus quash the subject?

It appears that the original intention of improving Hyde Park, by removing the mud from the Serpentine, is to be carried into effect. A good suggestion has been offered which would furnish materials for reducing the depth of the so-called "river" so that it may be safe for bathers, and add to the beauty of the Park. This is, that hollows should be excavated in the level of the Park, and earth thus obtained for the lake. If done with caution, and the excavations well planted, this might serve two purposes. If more earth be required, there is an enormous "spoil-bank," containing hundreds of thousands of tons, alongside the West London Railway, where the Hammersmith and City Railway crosses it, near the Latimer Road Station. A temporary tramway from Kensington Station to the Serpentine would suffice to extend the railway from the "spoil-bank" to the place where it would be serviceable.

We are requested to state, that owing to the disturbed state of the Continent, it has been decided to postpone the proposed exhibition of the works of Hans Holbein, the younger, at Dresden, till next year. Her Majesty the Queen had graciously promised to contribute a number of original paintings and drawings from the collection at Windsor Castle, and other possessors of genuine works of Holbein in England had also signified their willingness to lend them. It is hoped that the delay will result in the formation of a much more important series of works than would have been possible had the undertaking been carried out as proposed. A committee will, at the proper time, be formed in London to co-operate with the promoters of the exhibition in Germany.

We are requested to state the Hon. Secretary of the Royal Historical and Archaeological Association of Ireland, is the Rev. J. Graves, not Groves, as we printed it (*Athen.* No. 2229), and that his address is Inisnag, Stoneyford, Kilkenny. The Association has undertaken to preserve the ecclesiastical remains at Glendalough, and Mr. Graves will receive subscriptions in aid of the work.

M. GUSTAVE DORÉ has just finished a large drawing, illustrating De Musset's famous Rhine song, and particularly the line:

Où le père a passé, passera bien l'enfant.

The phantoms of the Old Guard salute young France, rushing by, under the old Rhenish castles, to the fight.

## MUSIC

### WAGNER'S 'FLIEGENDE HOLLÄNDER.'

IN 1838, a ship sailed from Riga for the port of Boulogne-sur-Mer. During the voyage a terrible tempest drove the vessel on to the coast of Norway, and it was nearly wrecked. Whilst the storm was raging, one passenger insisted on remaining on deck, undismayed by the war of the elements. An old sailor entered into conversation with the daring stranger, and related divers legends connected with the ocean, amongst which was that of "the Flying Dutchman." Doomed to sail in a phantom ship for a century, Vanderdecken, the captain, at the expiration thereof, was permitted to land, on the condition that he should not speak to any person. The terms not being adhered to, the spell was broken, and Vanderdecken was consigned to the deep as the punishment for his blasphemous language. The passenger who listened to this wild tale during the pelting of the storm was Richard Wagner, who was then making his way to Paris, to try his fortune with the score of 'Rienzi.' His previous career had been unfortunate. He

had been the orchestral conductor at Würzburg, Magdeburg, Königsburg, and Riga; a symphony of his had been tried at Leipzig; he had composed an opera, called 'The Fairies,' at Würzburg, which the director would not produce; he had subsequently brought out an opera at Magdeburg, called 'The Novice of Palermo,' which was given only one night; he had been quarrelling with the company at the Riga Opera House, where he was Kapellmeister; and he finally resolved to have 'Rienzi, the Last of the Tribunes,' presented, if possible, at the French Grand Opera House. For three years, 1839 to 1842, he lived in hopes that 'Rienzi' would have been brought out, either at the Académie Royale (now the Imperial Opera House) or at the Renaissance. Backed as he was by Meyerbeer, who afforded him aid in every way, the directors shrank from producing a new work by an unknown composer, especially as the *mise-en-scène* would have been costly. Wagner was reduced to great extremity. He wrote for the *Revue et Gazette Musicale*, he composed waltzes and polkas, he arranged the scores of the Grand Opera for the pianoforte—amongst the latter, the 'Favorita' of Donizetti. He was setting the legend of the 'Flying Dutchman,' with the hope that the work might be done at the Grand Opera, when, thanks to the intervention of Schroeder Devrient, the celebrated singer, he received the news that his 'Rienzi' had been accepted for Dresden. But so reduced was the composer, that he sold his libretto of the 'Fliegende Holländer' to M. Léon Pillet for twenty pounds. The director gave the book to M. Dietch, so long one of the musical staff of the Grand Opera House, to set. M. Paul Foucher remodelled the story, and wrote the words of Wagner's poem; but the opera was a complete failure. It was produced in November, 1842, with Madame Dorus-Gras as the heroine, and M. Canaple as the Flying Dutchman. M. Foucher placed the scene in Shetland. M. Dietch must have been consoled for his failure twenty years afterwards, as he took a leading part in the mounting of the 'Tannhäuser.' M. de Gasparini, who wrote the biography of Wagner, has supplied some very interesting details of his early career. After the great success of 'Rienzi,' at Dresden, the 'Fliegende Holländer' was brought out (2nd of January, 1842) with a result quite as favourable for the composer's fame. It is very probable that both 'Rienzi' and the 'Fliegende Holländer,' which went the round of musical Germany, would have reached Paris and London soon after their triumphant run in Wagner's fatherland, but unfortunately for him his brain had been turned with success; he became the musician militant; he adopted an aggressive policy in announcing a new and startling theory for the lyric drama, and he proved that he was in earnest by writing the 'Tannhäuser' and the 'Lohengrin,' to be followed in due course by 'Tristan und Isolde,' the 'Meistersänger von Nürnberg,' and two operas out of the trilogy of the 'Niebelungen,' the 'Rheingold,' and the 'Walkyre.' With the works of Wagner since 'The Flying Dutchman,' with his pompous poems, his belligerent books, and his paradoxical pamphlets, it is not necessary here to treat. The columns of the *Athenæum* can be referred to, for those who wish to be specially informed as to Wagner's wild and pernicious themes: but as regards 'The Flying Dutchman' it must be stated, in all fairness to the composer, that he has strictly adhered to conventional rules in the composition; he has violated no laws in the setting of the legend; he has simply followed in the beaten track of his predecessors in operatic writing. His score is laid out in routine order; his overture is a prelude to the leading themes of the singers; his numbers are divided in the orthodox fashion of recitative and cabaletta; nay, more, he has even maintained the *point d'orgue*, so completely is his air or scena noted like other reasonable musicians. *O si sic omnia!* The musician who could write such a second act as that of the 'Fliegende Holländer' might have entered the lists with the master minds of any epoch.

An amateur, who had heard 'The Flying Dutchman' six times at different theatres in Germany, being appealed to, on the first night of its repre-

sentation in this country (July 23), as to his opinion of the opera, replied "that he always felt that he could *encore* the second act, but would not be inconsolable if the first and third acts were dispensed with." This declaration, however, must be qualified: but for the opening act, the fine effects of the second one could not have been attained. But the other act has the disadvantage that the *dénouement* is made clear before the curtain rises on the final section of the libretto. The legend might have been converted into a more striking book. Old playgoers may recollect Fitzball's version at the Adelphi Theatre, in the Terry and Yates management days, when that excellent actor, the late T. P. Cooke, enacted Vanderdecken. The tale was more telling at the Adelphi, because there was more relief than in the German libretto. Rodwell's ballads, particularly the 'Return o' my Love,' where Vanderdecken stood spell-bound and speechless over Lestelle, still dwell in the memory. Now the part of the Norwegian skipper and that of Maria are not sufficiently vivacious in Wagner's book to contend against the gloom, despair, exaltation and mysticism of the other characters. An opera all storm and passion is inevitably depressing. The overture sufficiently indicates the wild and weird attributes of the legend. And in this prelude may be traced the tendencies of Wagner's style at the early period of his career. It is evident that, as regards orchestration, the Ninth Symphony and the posthumous Quartetts of Beethoven had deeply impressed Wagner, whilst the themes and their treatment manifest his leanings towards the romantic school of Weber. Encouraged by Beethoven to bold and startling combinations in instrumentation, and inspired, as Wagner was, by Weber, but not servilely, in melodious inspiration, there can be no legitimate protest against the overture. The breaks are not more sudden than in Beethoven; a raging storm cannot be scored to make the instrumentation anything else but boisterous. When Wagner starts with the *Allegro con brio* his intent is obvious; the whistling of the winds is distinguished in the chromatic scales; the roar of the sea is heard in the growling basses; but amidst this powerful demonstration of orchestral painting, gleams of sunshine are recognized in snatches of melody; and the winding up of the overture, where the harp is introduced, intimates that after the storm there is a calm to follow, in the *dénouement* of the legend. The first act has an introduction descriptive of the nautical cries of a crew casting anchor. This is followed by a barcarolle of the steersman, 'Mein Mädel, ich bin da,' which is popular in Germany, and is likely to be equally so anywhere. The renewal of the storm introduces the Phantom Ship, from which the doomed Holländer lands. The scena which is the second number of the score is a fine piece of declamation, the undercurrent of orchestration being somewhat terrible. The deep despair, the longing for eternal rest, the solemn call for the soul to be in chaos, are highly dramatic, but its difficulties require a thorough study of the text to conquer it successfully. To this scena succeeds a *duo* between two basses, in which Daland, the Norwegian skipper, tempted by the riches shown by the mysterious captain, agrees to give his daughter Senta in marriage to the unexpected visitor: for the salvation of the soul of the Holländer is dependent on a maiden's devotion and constancy. In the duet the skill displayed by the composer in preserving the individuality of each character is remarkable. Daland and the Captain sing different subjects which are worked in contrary motion—exaltation on the part of the father—exaltation on the side of the Holländer at the prospect of his obtaining the pardon he had so long prayed. The act is completed by the crew of Daland's ship joining in the barcarolle of the steersman, when the change of wind enables the vessel to reach the harbour.

In the second act, there are three numbers, opening with a spinning-wheel chorus of lively girls, who are expecting the return of their lovers from sea. There is indescribable charm in this part-song; whilst the *soprani* sustain the subject,

the *contralti* imitate the whirring of the wheel. The maidens laugh at the sentiment of Senta, who has gazed upon a portrait of the "Flying Dutchman" until her mind has been so affected by the legend that her only wish on earth is to free the doomed man from the penalty he has incurred for his presumption. Senta sings the legend at the desire of her companions, her friend Maria protesting against her infatuation. The ballad is a companion to the 'Fra Diavolo' one, sung by Zerlina, and was probably suggested by Auber's air; not that there is the slightest resemblance in the setting, but only that affinity which is so suggestive to composers. Wagner, it is affirmed, was very Auberish in his 'Novice of Palermo,' the story of which was taken from Shakspeare's 'Measure for Measure.' Senta's singing of the legend, after Erik the hunter, an aspirant for her hand, in an effective duo, tries to reason with her as to the delusion, naturally leads to the entrance of the Flying Dutchman. The scene (the sixth number of the score,) is divided into a recitative and air of Daland the father, a duo between Senta and the Hollander, and a trio finale of the three characters just specified. Anything finer in conception, more thoroughly dramatic in development, more intensely exciting than the trio, is not to be found in the whole *répertoire* of the lyric drama. Meyerbeer in 'Robert le Diable' has set a similar subject,—the saving of a soul, with ideas totally dissimilar, and forms essentially opposite; Wagner has been equally passionate and powerful. First, there is the recognition by Senta of her long-cherished idol; he whom she has so long gazed upon in canvas stands before her, a reality. She screams faintly, the father leans against the door surprised, the Hollander at once intuitively feels that his saviour is before him, and he looks with a fixed glare at her. The pause is filled up by orchestration, and is broken by a joyous strain of the father, at presenting a husband to the daughter, by exultant exclamations of delight as he points out to the Hollander the Scandinavian fair one. Rossini or Donizetti might have claimed this tuneful outbreak of Daland's happiness before he leaves the two to themselves. It is impossible to convey a notion in words of the marvellous skill of the composer in depicting the phases of passion in the duo. The fine distinction drawn in the devotion of the woman and the supernatural joy of the wanderer is admirable. The changes, the breaks, the variety in the setting of the duo until it reaches the climax of Senta's holy intent, and of the Hollander's ecstatic hopefulness of salvation, have been noted with consummate skill, and its effect is always electrical. The return of Daland completes the trio finale to this truly exciting act.

There is little temptation to dwell on the last act, as, by some strange notion, it has been curtailed of one of the finest situations, musically and dramatically, in the Drury Lane adaptation. This is the unearthly chorus of the crew of the Dutch vessel, which is so appalling as contrasted with the merriment of the Norwegian sailors and their lasses. A cavatina of Erik, the tenor, to induce Senta not to sacrifice herself—a trio, in which the Hollander himself essays to turn her from her purpose, the flinging of herself into the sea, the sinking of the Phantom Ship amidst flames of fire, and the apotheoses of Senta and the Hollander, conclude this remarkable work. Giving every credit to all concerned in the execution for care and conscientiousness, and considering the hurried mode in which new works are mounted in this country, still it must be frankly stated that the interpretation falls far short of that which is heard in Germany. As regards Senta, however, there has, probably, never been such an adequate exponent as Mdle. Di Murska, whose musical and dramatic reputation has been vastly increased by the character. The very intricate music of the Hollander was, on the whole, done justice to by Mr. Santley, whose lower notes were, however, severely tried; but in the acting he fell far short of the requirements of the part, especially in the scene with Senta in the second act, which was rendered too indicative of a lover, instead of the

Hollander being presented as an unearthly victim of punishment, seeking for eternal rest through an angelic mediator—that of a constant woman. The second tenor, Signor Rinaldini, as the steersman, was far preferable to the first tenor, Signor Perotti, as the huntsman: the hard and harsh voice of the latter made the music of Erik unsympathetic. Signor Foli sang ably as the father, but he must make Daland more joyous to give due effect to the music. As the opera is likely to maintain its position in the *répertoire*, the *mise-en-scène* should be re-formed: the nautical manoeuvres were not remarkable for accuracy. For the production of the 'Fliegende Holländer' the thanks of the operatic community are due to the management; but, at the same time, let the success of the essay of an early Wagner opera be not regarded as a test of the reception which would attend here his later productions. The Music of the Future is still an open question in this country. If Wagner will produce another 'Fliegende Holländer' there would be unanimity in musical Europe, and his return to the legitimate school of the lyric drama would be heartily welcomed.

#### Musical Gossip.

THE Drury Lane Italian opera season will terminate on the 30th inst., Mdle. Nilsson appearing for her benefit in the first act of Verdi's 'Traviata,' in the second act of Flotow's 'Martha,' and in the third act of Donizetti's 'Lucia.' A summary of Mr. Wood's campaign will appear in the next issue of the *Athenæum*. Mr. Wood, it is stated, has renewed the tenancy of Drury Lane for the season 1871.

THE London rehearsals of the Birmingham Musical Festival are fixed for the 8th and 9th proximo. The band and principals will attend. The new works to be rehearsed are the oratorio, 'St. Peter,' the music by Jules Benedict, Cantatas by Dr. Ferdinand Hiller and Mr. J. Francis Barnett, and a work by Dr. Stewart, of Dublin. An Overture, by Mr. A. S. Sullivan, will also be included in the novelties.

THE friends and supporters, lay and clerical, of the Three Choir Musical Festivals, are rejoicing greatly that the Hereford Meeting, to be held on the 23rd to the 26th of August, will be attended by the Prince and Princess Christian, who are now at the Malvern Hills. Lady Emily Foley, one of the staunchest upholders of the Cathedral performances, will entertain the Royal visitors at Stoke Edith Park during the Festival week.

THE field-day of the Royal Academy of Music on the 23rd, whilst it afforded the pupils the opportunity to display an average amount of ability, was interesting to their friends, as the prizes were distributed by Mrs. Gladstone. Mr. Wingham, whose Symphony was executed, gained a silver medal, and Mr. Parry was awarded a bronze medal, having composed and sung a recitative and air; the other recipients of honorary awards were Miss Marion Severn, who is engaged as one of the contraltos for the Hereford Festival, and ought not, therefore, to be regarded as a pupil; the Misses Townshend, Linda Scates, Rebecca Jewell, Waite, G. Gardner, Goode, J. Ferrari, Pocklington, Sophie Ferrari, Westmorland, Moultrie, Channell, Watson, Newman, Taylor, &c.; Messrs. W. Shakespeare, S. Kemp, Parry, Cook, Beazley, Brion, Douce, Docker, W. Parker, Walker; besides letters of recommendation to other pupils. It would appear from the increased number of rewards that the Paris Conservatoire system of stimulating students by the hope of honorary distinction is to be adopted.

THE season of French Opera Buffa will close on the 30th inst. For the benefit of M. Raphael Félix, Mdle. Schneider was announced for four of her characters, namely *Boulotte* in the first act of the 'Barbe-Bleue,' in the second act of 'La Grande Duchesse,' in the first act of 'La Pêcholle,' and in the fourth act of 'Orphée aux Enfers,' all being operas by Offenbach.

MR. ERINLEY RICHARDS having discovered in the British Museum a MS. Concerto for the

triple-stringed harp of Wales, composed by Handel for Powell, the harper to George the Second, had the opportunity of having the work executed at a concert of Welsh music recently given by Lady Llanover. Herr Sjöden played the harp part, the *tutti* being two violins, a viola, a violoncello and a double bass. There are three movements, an *allegro*, a *larghetto*, and a *rondo finale*. As a work by Handel it is naturally a curiosity.

M. FAURE, on his return to Paris, has been called upon, as well as Madame Sass, to sing the 'Marseillaise,' now accepted by Imperialism as the national air, superseding the melody of Hortense, 'Partant pour la Syrie.' M. Faure has adopted the Rachel reading of 1848, in giving the words "Amour sacré de la patrie," which he sings kneeling, enveloped in a tri-coloured flag. Duprez, the tenor, sang in the chorus at the display. M. Leo Delibes has set the words of M. Alfred Musset, 'Le Rhin Allemand,' and the cantata, with solo for bass, to be sung by Faure, chorus, costumes, and scenery, is to be executed at the Grand Opéra house. At the Opéra Comique Madame Galli-Marie and M. Monjaux, the tenor, sang the 'Marseillaise.' At the Music Halls the air of the Girondins, 'Mourir pour la patrie,' is the favourite piece.

It is stated that during the past musical season in Paris more than three hundred concerts were given, exclusive of those of the Conservatoire, the Sunday Popular Concerts, the choral societies, matinees, &c.

M. CAPOUT, the popular French tenor, has suddenly returned to Paris from Hombourg, the place having been completely deserted by the visitors at the first news of the war.

HEER MAX STRAKOSCH has engaged Mdle. Cari, the contralto of Drury Lane, M. Verger, the baritone, and M. Vieuxtemps, the violinist, to accompany Mdle. Nilsson in her American tour.

THE amateurs interested in the Beethoven Festivals which are to be given in Germany may be glad to learn that the war will not prevent the performances from taking place at the various cities recently specified, namely, Vienna, Berlin, and Bonn.

WE hear from Vienna of the death of Gustav Vogt, well known as an oboe player, at ninety years of age. He was a bandsman in the Imperial Guard at the Battle of Austerlitz.

AN article by Signor Giosué Carducci on the 'Musica e Poesia del Mondo elegante Italiano del Secolo XIV,' in the last number of the *Nuova Antologia*, gives a good view of the music and poetry which were fashionable in Italy in the fourteenth century.

SIGNOR MARELLINI has produced, at the old Theatre Ré, in Milan, a three-act comic opera called 'Fiametta.'

SIGNOR POMPEI has been on a tour with an Italian opera company in Manilla, Batavia, and the Archipelago. He is well satisfied with his results. Signor Pompei has now made an arrangement with the Bombay people to supply them with a good opera company, to commence the season in November next. Thus Bombay will once more have an opera, and there is every prospect that before long Calcutta, Bombay, and the hill cities will become permanent seats of opera. This is good news in war times.

#### DRAMA

##### GAIETY THEATRE.

MR. ALBERTY'S comedy, 'Dr. Davy,' was produced at this theatre on Monday, with Mr. Hermann Vezin in his original character of David Garrick. The comedy is in one act only, and consists of a lively version of the same piece which supplied Mr. Robertson with his David Garrick. Except in the principal personage, it was indifferently acted. Mr. Maclean gave a tame and colourless representation of Mr. Molesley, the puritanical tradesman with a strong aversion to



theatres; Mrs. H. Leigh was noisy as his intractable sister; and Miss Maria Harris, though agreeable enough, wanted energy in the character of the romantic and stage-struck *Mary*. Mr. Vezin's *Garriek*, however, was an admirable piece of character-acting, artistic, quiet, consistent and free from all exaggeration. It is the curious fate of this actor to exhibit himself in parts in which his capacity can be gauged at those times only when the ordinary public shuns the theatres. Hence, although Mr. Vezin's distinct and marked talent receives recognition from a few competent judges, to the general public it is almost unknown. The performance of *David Garrick* shows that the range of Mr. Vezin's talent is wide, and includes a power of humour almost as great as the earnestness and command of pathos with which he is generally credited.

#### Dramatic Gossip.

MRS. SCOTT SIDDONS, for her benefit, made her first appearance as the heroine of Dance's clever comedietta, 'Delicate Ground.'

THREE more London theatres have now closed their doors, the Princess's, the St. James's, and the Strand. Regular performances are now given at six of the West End houses only.

A NEW drama, entitled 'Weeds and Flowers,' has been produced at the East London Theatre. There is nothing especially appropriate in the title, the play consisting of a version of an oft-used story of a girl taking upon herself the responsibility of an intrigue of her sister's.

M. VICTOR HUGO has, it is said, finished an historical comedy, entitled 'Madame de Maintenon,' to be produced at the Français.

THE only changes at the Parisian theatres besides the nightly introduction into the programme of unlimited repetitions of the Marseillaise, consist of the resumption at the Vaudeville by M. Brindeau of his original character in the 'Héritage' of M. Plumet; and a revival at the Gymnase of three pieces, of which the most celebrated is the 'Matrone d'Ephèse.'

To gratify the warlike instincts of the Parisians, Ponsard's 'Lion Amoureux' has been revived at the Théâtre Français. Some passages against the Prussians placed in the mouth of one of the characters were excised at the first production of the piece; these have now been restored, and it is needless to say are vociferously applauded.

At the Ambigu-Comique, a spectacle entitled 'Les Prussiens en Lorraine' is in preparation.

THE death by suicide of Mr. James W. Lingard, some time manager of the Bowery Theatre, is announced from New York. Mr. Lingard was forty-seven years of age, and was an Englishman by birth. His first appearance in New York was in 1848. Among his more celebrated impersonations, Uncle Tom, in a dramatic version of Mrs. Stowe's celebrated romance, stands prominent. This was repeated on 368 consecutive evenings.

A COLLECTION of the Italian dramas by Signor Carmelo M. Monreale has been published by Signor Garini, at Girgenti.

#### ANTIQUARIAN NOTES.

Calling a Spade a Spade.—Your Correspondents have not yet hit the mark. The phrase is to be found originally in Plutarch's 'Apothegmata of Princes,' &c. Philip, speaking of his Macedonians as a blunt, plain people, describes them as being accustomed to call things by their right names—"ἐκάλουν ἐκάλουν λεγόντες." I apprehend that this is the first record of the phrase. As to its existence in Lucian, I am altogether heretic.

ROBERT REECE, M.A.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—H. H.—N. C.—C. G. C. D.—W. H.—H. A. M.—M. N.—C. B.—J. J.—C. H.—received.

Errata.—No. 2229, p. 31, col. 1, line 19 from the bottom, for "about" read above.—No. 2230, p. 121, col. 1, last line, for "chances" read *Chaucer*; p. 123, col. 1, line 24, for "Maguire" read *Magnific*.

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